

Nr. 4.

5de aarg.

VOSSINGEN

ORGAN FOR VOSSELAGET.

Fortsættelse af det ældste bygdelagsorgan i Amerika. 1857—1860.



MADISON, WISCONSIN, 1922.

VOSELAGETS EMBEDSMÆND:

Præsident — Wm. Nelson, Deerfield, Wis. Vice-præsident — E. A. Nestos, Minot, N. Dakota. Sekretær — K. A. Rene, 1248 Jenifer Str., Madison, Wis. Kasserer — John E. Glimme, 3230 Hirsch Str., Chicago, Ill. Redaktør — K. A. Rene.

Medlemskontingent \$1.00 for aaret. Enkle numre 25 cent.
AARSSTEVNET.

Lagets aarstævne afholdtes som berammet i Albert Lea den 14de og 15de september; og begunstiget af herligt veir mødte der frem en anseelig forsamling. Denne hørte for det meste hjemme i det sydlige Minnesota og nordlige Iowa; men der var ogsaa repræsentanter fra de andre omliggende stater, hvoriblandt en flok fra Chicago, Ill.

Stævnet begyndte paa sædvanlig maade med anskaffelse af mærker, programmer og billetter, medens samtalende grupper dannede sig her og der baade udenfor og indenfor salen. Dermed tilbragtes da tiden til udover første dags middag.

Byens borgere viste fra begyndelsen af stor interesse for laget og hjalp til paa bedste maade. En komite, som stod til tjeneste med raad og daad, var udnævnt af formanden for forretningsmændenes forening, og denne lodes ikke ubenyttet. Guvernør Nestos ankom til byen ved middagstiden, og et lidet middagsselskab blev af byens borgere arrangeret til hans ære i et af byens hoteller. Til dette var ogsaa lagets præsident og sekretær indbudt.

Kl. 2.30 blev mødet formelt aabnet. Velkomsttaler holdtes af Borgermester Wm. Wohlhuter der i anerkjendende ord omtalte de norskes indsats her i landet og havde, som han sagde, ingen betænkeligheder ved at aabne byens porto for Vossingerne. Han introduceredes af Mr. S. B. Hopperstad, medlem af borgerkomiteen, der først gjorde nogle bemærkninger paa sognemaal og endte saa op med engelsk. Lunt bemærkede borgermesteren dertil, at han skulde like at vide betydningen af de første ord, saa han kunde svare paa dem ogsaa, men som det var maatte han først finde ud meningen.

Lagets formand, Advokat Wm. Nelson, holdt en kort svartale og udtrykte herunder sin glæde over, at laget kunde møde i denne heldig beliggende og vel ordnede by.

Derpaa talte Guvernør B. A. Nestos. Paa ægte vossemaal gav han udtryk for de stemninger, som bragte bygedefolket sammen, og om betydningen deraf. Man vilde mindes de høje idealer, som ytrede sig i det gamle

VOSELAGETS OFFICERS:

President — Wm. Nelson, Deerfield, Wis. Vice-president — E. A. Nestos, Minot, N. Dakota. Secretary — K. A. Rene, 1248 Jennifer Str., Madison, Wis. Treasurer — John E. Glimme, 3230 Hirsch Str., Chicago, Ill. Editor — K. A. Rene.

Membership subscription \$1.00 per year. Single numbers 25 cents.
THIS YEARS CONVENTION

The lag's annual convention which was set for Sept. 14 and 15 in Albert Lea, and which was favored with great weather, met, with considerable attendance. This consisted mostly of people with homes in southern Minnesota or northern Iowa but there were also representatives from the other surrounding states including a group from Chicago.

The meeting began in the usual fashion by obtaining ribbons, programs and tickets, while conversational groups formed both outside and inside the hall. This was how the time was spent until the first day's dinner.

The town's citizens, from the beginning, showed great interest in the organization and assisted in the best manner. A committee, which was of service in advice and performance, had been appointed for the meeting by the president of the Chamber of Commerce, and it was well-used. Governor Nestos arrived in town at lunch-time and a little luncheon was arranged in his honor in one of the town's hotels. The lag president and secretary were also invited to this.

The convention was formally opened at 2:30 in the afternoon. In a welcome address by Mayor Wm. Wohlhuter, using acknowledging words, talked about Norwegian contributions here in this country and he had no hesitation to opening the city gates to the vossings. He was introduced by Mr. S. B. Hopperstad, a member of the citizens committee, who first made some remarks in Sogning dialect and ended up with English. The mayor said that he would like to find out the meaning of the first words, because he would like to respond to them also, but first he had to learn what they meant.

The lag president, Advocate Wm. Nelson responded with a short speech and expressed his happiness that the club fortunately could meet in such a convenient and organized city.

Then Governor B. A. Nestos spoke. In genuine Voss dialect, he gave thanks for those summons that had brought the Voss district people together, and its meaning. One should recall the high ideals which

Fædrenehjem, hvilket det vilde være godt at huske ogsaa nu. Det var ikke nødvendigt at glemme fedrenes sprog og sæder fordi vi var komne her. Vossingen Per Sivle skrev : "Vi vil os et Land, som er frelst og frit", og som man i Norge troelig har arbeidet for dette, saa har de norske gjort mere end sin del i den retning her, og har derfor ret til alt det, som indbefattes i Sivles ord. Han vilde bare nævne det arbeide, som blev gjort for at faa istand kirkesamfund, faa præster, oprette skoler o. l. Kvinderne tog del i arbeidet saavel som Mændene. De tænkte mere paa dette end paa fine klæder, som kvinderne tidt har hang til her nu. Et større alvor prægede de norske i alt deres færd. Deres ansvarsfølelse og samvittigheds-fuldhed holdt dem i længste laget fra at søge offentlige bestillinger, men da de saa, at der var mangel paa dette i styrelsen, paa forskellige omraader, greb de ind og virkningen har været følt. De norske maa da huske og holde af det, som far og mor holdt af, og ikke mindre end de har gjort, maa de selv tænke paa at gjøre.

Lagets specielle opgaver blev derpaa i en tale fremholdt af Sekretær K. A. Rene, — dets virke for at mindet om forfædrene, som har levet og virket paa Voss i mere end tusind aar, holdes vedlige saavel ved skrifter som ved sammenkomster; dets arbeide for at samle beretningerne om de Vosseslægter, som har bosat sig her, og faa dem i forbindelse med slægtshistorierne paa Voss, som de tidligere hørte til; samt at holde forbindelsen med hinanden, saa at man kunde faa greie paa, hvad slægtinger og venner magtede at gjøre her i landet. Han omtalte saa visse træk af den gamle Vossehistorie, specielt om kristendommens indførelse, hvis 900 aars minde skal feires paa Voss næste aar, og derpaa et og andet om Vossingernes virke og færd her i landet, deriblandt om Vossingerne i South Dakota, der i 1860-aarene under borgerkrigen i forholdsvis stort antal lod sig hverve, og medens en flok bekjæmpede Indianerne og en anden reiste til syden, sad otte af dem i den territoriale legislatur for faa den nye stats love færdige.

Efter nogle bemærkninger af Guvernør Nestos angaaende Vosseturen, foreslog han at en hjælpekomitee paa 5 udnævntes til at virke for denne sag, hvilket vedtoges. Komiteen blev I. O. Lidsheim, Kenyon, Minn.; O. O. Skutle, Lake Mills, Ia.; O. K. Takle, Albert Lea, Minn.; L. L. Torgersen, Keister, Minn., og John Glimme, Chicago.

Kl. 5.30 samledes man til festmaaltid i forretningsmændenes foreningslokale. Efter bespisningen mødte man kl. 8 aften i auditoriet igjen for at høre paa programmet. Henimod 700 personer var tilstede. Dette begyndtes med sang af Albert Leas norske mandskor "Nordkap" under ledelse af Dr. J. Nannestad. "Norges bedste", "Kjærringa med Staven", og "Ole Glomstulen" lød prægtigt. Derpaa talte formand Nelson, som ogsaa ledede programmet. Mellem skjæmtende smaahistorier, af hvilke han altid synes at have et fond ved haanden, fremhold han

expressed themselves in the old fatherland, which would be good to remember now. It was not necessary to forget the language or the origin of our forefathers because we had come here. The vossing, Per Sivle, wrote "We want a country that's redeemed and free" and as people in Norway have faithfully worked for this, then the Norwegians have done more than their share in that direction here, and have therefore a right to everything included in Sivle's words. He only wanted to refer to the work done to arrange a church society, obtain ministers, build schools and such. Women took part in this work as well as the men. They thought more of this than of fine clothing like women value much here now. The Norwegians were serious in all their behavior. Their responsibility and conscience in the greatest degree kept them from seeking public office, but when they saw that there was deficiency of this in management, in various areas, they stepped right in and their effect was felt. The Norwegians had to remember and hold to the traits, similar to what their mother and father had held to, and not less than they had done, they must they think of doing.

The lag's particular duty was addressed in a speech presented by secretary K. A. Rene,—it's work for the memory of our forefathers, who have lived and worked at Voss for more than a thousand years, is held equally with writings about our gatherings; its work in gathering information about the Voss families, who have settled here, and connecting them with the family histories at Voss, with which they were earlier associated, as well as maintaining that connection with each other so that we could learn what relatives and friends were able to do in this country. He spoke of various features of old Voss history, especially of the introduction of Christianity, whose 900 year anniversary will be next year, and then this and that about the vossing activity here in this country, including the vossings in South Dakota, who in the 1860 years during the Civil War volunteered in relatively large numbers and while a group fought the Indians and others went to the south, eight of them sat in the territorial legislature to finish the new state's laws.

After some remarks by Governor Nestos regarding the tour to Voss, he moved that a committee of five be appointed for to organize this, which was done. The committee was I. O. Lidsheim, Kenyon MN, O. O. Skutle, Lake Mills, IA, O. K. Takle, Albert Lea, MN, L. L. Torgerson, Keister, MN and John Glimme, Chicago.

At 5:30 people gathered for a banquet in the Businessman's Meeting Rooms. After dining they met in the auditorium again at 8:00 PM for the program. Approximately 700 people were present. It began with songs by the Albert Lea's Norwegian men's chorus "North Cape" under the leadership of Dr. J. Nannestad. "Norges bedste", "Kjærringa med staven" and "Ole Glomstulen" sounded grand. Then President Nelson, who also presided over the program, spoke. Between the humorous small stories, of which he always has a good supply, he stated how pleasant it was to gather together using the language of

det hyggelige ved at komme sammen og paa fædrenes sprog samtale om fælles minder og traditioner og hædre sin far og mor ved saaledes at vise agtelse for sin herkomst. Omtalte Vossingernes udvandring og indsats, og sluttede med en opfordring om at virke for fædrearevens bevarelse.

Efterat Olav Smedal velvilligst havde givet tilbedste etpar nationale numre paa sin telemarksviolin, gav T. O. Litsheim, Kenyon, Minn., en skildring af naturens indvirkning paa folkelivet. Han eiterede uddrag af flere poetiske naturskildringer og frembar tanken om, at Voss's herlige natur med alle dens variationer og fænomener i høi grad havde sat sit præg paa befolkningen.

Derpaa fulgte etpar sange igjen af koret "Nordkap", hvoriblandt "Han Mass aa han Lasse" havde en mærkelig virkning paa forsamlingen. Saa talte Rektor L. W. Boe af St. Olaf college. Han havde ikke været paa Voss, og heller ikke var han mere end halv Vossing, sagde han, men han havde havt anledning til at lære Vossingerne at kjende, og var det noget, han kunde være stolt af, var det sin herkomst. Han var interesseret i bygdelagsbevægelsen, fordi den var af en opdragende natur. Den frembragte kulturværdier, som trængtes. Han omtalte derpaa indvandringen fra Norge. Det var ikke alene til indvandrernes fordel, de norske kom her. Det var ligemeget til Amerikas fordel. De fleste kom her tomhændet, men de havde alligevel noget at give, som Amerika trængte. De havde lært noget at gjøre, havde en kraftig arm og et hjerte fuldt af virkelyst. Og man trængte ikke at aflægge noget af det norske for at blive gode Amerikanere. De norske havde vist, at de fra første færd var saa gode Amerikanere som nogen, og dette var mere som følge af sit norske grundsyn end noget andet. Videre omtalte han de forskellige karaktertræk hos den norske befolkning. Man behøvede ikke at reise til Norge for at studere dem, mente han. Efter at have givet nogle eksempler paa disse og nævnt den samvittigheds-fuldhed og ofte mørke alvor, som særprægede de norske pionerer, udtalte han sluttelig, at, er det noget Amerika trækker, saa er det noget af den aand, som besjælede pionererne, og det har meget at sige at have viljen til at ligne forfædrene i deres fremadstræbende virke.

Næst gav O. T. Takle, Albert Lea, nogle deklamationer tilbedste der modtoges med megen fornøielse, især om den "hellige Inkonsekvens" der vistnok lever og trives, som aldrig tilforn. Der-paa fik man en kort men særdeles anslaaende tale af Olaf K. Takle Jr., der blandt andet udtalte, at det arbeide, som laa foran, var at lære de unge, hvad disse som ældre skulde ønske at lære. Blandt dette var fædrenesproget. Aar vil komme, da de unge, som ikke lærte sproget af forældrene, vil ønske at lære det. Det er da ikke saa let. Medens de, som af de ældre fik lære det i sin ungdom, vil senere være taknemmelige derfor.

our forefathers to converse about common memories and traditions and thereby honoring our parents by paying attention to their coming here. He discussed the Vossing's emigration and finished with an appeal to preserve our heritage.

After Olav Smedal kindly had favored us with a couple patriotic numbers on his Telemark violin, T.O. Litsheim, Kenyon, MN gave a portrait of the environment's effect on daily life. He cited excerpts of several nature poems and brought our attention to the fact that Voss's grand natural world with all its variety and phenomena have set their mark on the populace.

Thereupon followed a pair of songs again by the chorus "Nordkapp", of which "Han Mass aa han Lasse" had a significant effect on the audience. Then President L. W. Boe of St. Olaf College spoke. He had not been in Voss, and he was only half vossing, he said, but he had had the opportunity to get to know vossings and if there was anything of which he was proud, it was his ancestry. He was interested in the bygdelag movement, because it was of an educational nature. It produced cultural values, which were needed. He discussed the immigration from Norway. It wasn't only of advantage to the immigrants that the Norwegians came here. It was just as much to America's benefit. Most of them came empty-handed, but nevertheless they had something to contribute that America needed. Most of them had learned to do something, had strong arms and hearts full of energy. One didn't have to take anything away from the Norwegians in order to be good Americans. The Norwegians had shown from the first that they were as good Americans as anyone and this was based more on their basic Norwegian viewpoint than anything else. Further, he spoke of the various characteristics of the Norwegian people. One didn't have to travel to study them, he said. After he had given some examples of these and mentioned the conscientious and often extreme seriousness that characterized the Norwegian pioneers, he stated finally that, something America needed, was some of the spirit which inspired the pioneers to have the will like their forebears in their forward motivated work.

Next O. T. Takle, Albert Lea, favored us with some declamations that were received with great approval, especially the one "holy Inconsequence" which evidently lives and thrives as never before. Then we had a short but especially striking talk by Olaf K. Takle, Jr., which among else, stated that that labor which lay in the future, was to teach the young that which the elderly wished them to learn. This included the language of their parents. Years will come when the young who didn't learn their parent's language, wished they had learned it. It isn't so easy to learn it then. Those of the elderly who learned it in their youth are very appreciative of it.

Saa fulgte en tale af Guvernør Nestos, der denne gang brugte det engelske, da flere ikke-norske var tilstede. Han udtalte blandt andet, at det er det inspirerende, som skinner frem af ens gerning og viser sig i historiens aand. Fædrenes tanker og bedrifter tænder begeistring og bidrager til undfangelse af nye ideer og større bestræbelser. Derfor samles vi ogsaa til disse stevner — samles i tanken paa far og mor og for at mindes de herlige træk, som var fremherskende hos vore fædre, og som vi har arvet fra dem. Han nævnte saa et og andet, hvori de norske syntes at have udmærket sig — deres pligtfølelse, villighed til at arbeide aabent og ærligt, tjenstvillighed, respekt for lov og ret, forældre og lærere o. s. v. Disse træk bar ogsaa vist sig hos etterkommerne her i landet. Man kan mærke sig deres tjeneste i sidste krig. De var med i stort antal, og den mest dekorerede soldat var en nordmand. De stiller sig redebont til tjeneste — netop et træk, de har arvet. De er ikke rædde for anstrængelse eller noget andet. De er inspireret af høiere idealer end mammon. De kjender noget til kunst, til literatur og andet, som forskjønner tilværelsen, som ogsaa er et tidslag af fædrearven. For at være af størst tjeneste maa vi da holde paa vore fædres idealer og sætte vor stolthed i at være deres sønner og døtre.

Efterat et par numre igjen var spillet af Olav Smedal, foreviste O. K. Takle og Valdresen Olav Hellie en stevleik, der var særdeles fornølelig. Det vellykkede program afsluttedes med et par sange af "Nordkap".

Fredag formiddag havdes forretningsmøde paa samme sted. Efterat rapporterne var gennemgaaet og godkjendte, besluttedes at sende hilsskrivelser til følgende, som selv havde sendt hilssning til laget, nemlig til Justitiarius: Aad Vinje, Madison; Odd Eide, Fertile, Minn.; Knut Henderson, Cambridge, Wis.; Prof. R. B. Anderson, Madison, Wis.; Advokat Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., og B. K. Brekke, Letcher, S. Dak.

Skrivelse fra bygdelagenes fællesraad om 100-aarsfesten for den norske indvandring oplæstes, og det besluttedes, at præsidenten eller et af barn udnævnt medlem, der boede paa stedet, bemyndiges til at overvære fælleskomiteens møder med tanke paa, at laget deltager i festen.

Saa optoges lagets skrift til behandling. Det oplystes af sekretæren, at udgifterne ved trykningen nu ville dækkes af kontingenten, hvis man ikke ventede med at indsende denne, saasart den forfaldt. Efter nogle udtalelser til gunst for skriftet, foreslog J. O. Litsheim, at sekretæren støttes bedst mulig med udgivelsen deraf. Tilstemt. Derpaa foresloges, at en komite paa 3 i hver stat, udnævnes til at hjælpe til med ordningen af møder og indkrævning af kontingent. Følgende blev senere udnævnt: Minnesota: Odd Eide, Fertile; L. L. Thorgerson, Keister; J. O. Litsheim, Kenyon, Iowa; K. G. Monson, Skarville; E. L.

There followed a speech by Governor Nestos who this time used English, since there were several non-Norwegians present. Among other things, he talked of that there are inspiring things which shine forth from one's work and shows itself in the spirit of history. Our ancestor's thoughts and achievements give enthusiasm and led to the concept of new ideas and greater endeavors. Therefore we meet at these gatherings—meet with thoughts of our father and mother and to remember the grand pathways that dominated our ancestor's lives and which we have inherited from them. He mentioned various things in which the Norwegians seemed to have distinguished themselves—their sense of duty, respect for law and justice, parents and teachers, etc. These traits also continued in their descendants here in this country. One notices this in their service in the last war. They were a large majority and the most decorated soldier was a Norwegian. They presented themselves willing for service—exactly that characteristic they had inherited. They weren't afraid of hard work or such. They were inspired by high ideals more than material wealth. They knew something about art, about literature and other things that beautify our presence but are also a mere bit of our inheritance. Our greatest duty is to preserve our parents' ideals and set our pride in being their sons and daughters.

After Olav Smedal played a couple songs, O. K. Takle and the Valdres person Olav Hellie presented a contest in improvisation of short musical stanzas, which was particularly pleasing. The successful program ended with a pair of songs by "Nordkapp".

The business meeting on Friday forenoon was at the same place. After the minutes had been moved and accepted, it was decided to send greeting letters to the following, who themselves had sent greetings to the lag, namely to Supreme Court Justice Aad Vinje, Madison, WI; Odd Eide, Fertile, MN; Knut Henderson, Cambridge, WI; Prof. R. B. Anderson, Madison, WI; Advocate Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, MN, and B. K. Brekke, Letcher, SD.

A letter from the Bygdelagenes Fællesraad about the 100 year celebration of the Norwegian immigration was read, and it was decided that the president or one of children of the appointed members be authorized to attend the Fællesråd committee meetings with the intention that the lag participate in the celebration.

Then the lag publication was dealt with. It was explained by the secretary that the cost of printing would be covered by the subscription if one didn't expect the remittances as soon as they were due. After some discussion concerning of the newsletter, J. O. Litsheim moved that the secretary be supported as best possible in the publication of it. Motion passed. Thereupon, it was moved that a committee of three in each state be appointed to help with the arrangement of meetings and collection of subscriptions. The following were later appointed: Minnesota: Odd Eide, Fertile; L. L. Thorgerson, Keister; J. O. Litsheim, Kenyon, Iowa; K. G. Monson, Skarville;

Skjervhjem, Locust; O. N. Styve, Lake Mills. Illinois: John Glimme, Andrew Høiland og Isak Vinsand, alle af Chicago. South Dakota: Bjarne K. Brekke, Letcher; Knut Rygh, Verillion; A. A. Raugstad, Sioux Falls. North Dakota: O. P. Stalheim, Granville; L. O. Aarhus, Norma; O. E. Nestos, Hatton. Wisconsin: John G. Pedersen, Morrisonville; Henry Nelson, Whitewater; Oscar B. Durstad, Clinton.

Angaaende næste aarsmøde var der flere udtalelser for, at dette holdes om vaaren i juni, men det overlodes til komiteerne og bestyrelsen at fatte endelig beslutning derom.

Sekretæren rapporterede om Vossehistorien, som det nu gjaldt at skaffe midler til at faa trykt, og at der var forfærdiget lister til tegning af større beløb. Guvernør Nestos talte for, at alle maatte tegne sig, og foreslog at den dagen i forveien udnævnte komite for Vossereisen ser til, at alle tegner sig. Selv vilde han give mindst \$50 til dette. Det oplystes, at et par stykker til havde tegnet sig for lignende beløb.

Vosseturen optoges derpaa til behandling. Guvernør Nestos, som er formand paa komiteen for denne, gav en udredning af sagen, der gik ud paa, at komiteen maatte søge at faa alle, som tænkte paa at reise til Norge i en nær fremtid alligevel, til at reise næste aar, og sende ind navnene; at man maatte tænke paa at reise saa tidlig, at en 4de julifest kunde feires paa Voss af et anseeligt antal. Han foreslog, at sekretæren skriver en artikel for "Hordaland" om, at de der hjemme paa Voss, som har slægtninger her, skriver til disse og beder dem om at komme hjem til festlighederne. Han foreslog ogsaa paa spørgsmaal om, hvilken linje man bør tage, at Den norske Amerikalinje foretrakkes, og næst den skandinaviske, men at det overlades til bestyrelsen at bestemme linjen.

Derpaa foretoges valg paa ny bestyrelse, der resulterede i, at den gamle blev gjenvalgt, nemlig Wm. Nelson, Deerfield, Wis., Formand; Guvernør E. A. Nestos, Bismarck, N. Dak., Viceformand; K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær; John Glimme, Chicago, Ill., kasserer. Valgene var enstemmige.

Et forslag om, at en komite paa tre, hvoraf den ene er sekretæren, udnævnes til at fatte takkeresolutioner til borgermesteren for byen og til den kommercielle forening, blev vedtaget. Komite blev John Glimme og J. O. Lidsheim.

Forslag af Nestos, at bestemmelsen, fattet i Red Wing 1917, om at Vossehistorien skulde koste \$1.00, ophæves. Vedtaget. Derpaa foreslog han, at de penge, som kom ind ved denne dollarsubskription, anvendes om nødvendigt paa "Vossingen". Vedtaget, Derpaa blev mødet hævet.

Om eftermiddagen fik man sig en automobilturn omkring i byen og omegn.

E. L. Skjervhjem, Locust; O. N. Styve, Lake Mills. Illinois: John Glimme, Andrew Høiland and Isak Vinsand, all of Chicago. South Dakota: Bjarne K. Brekke, Letcher; Knut Rygh, Verillion; A. A. Raugstad, Sioux Falls. North Dakota: O. P. Stalheim, Granville; L. O. Aarhus, Norma; O. E. Nestos, Hatton. Wisconsin: John G. Pedersen, Morrisonville; Henry Nelson, Whitewater; Oscar B. Durstad, Clinton.

There were several suggestions for next year's meeting to hold it in the spring, in June, but it was left to a committee and the officers to make the final decision

The secretary reported about the Voss History, which now requires funds to be printed, and that there were prepared lists for signing of generous amounts. Governor Nestos spoke for, that all should countersign and moved that on the day the previously appointed committee is looking forward to, all should sign up. He himself gave at least \$50 to the cause. It was explained that a couple more have signed up for a similar amount.

Next the Voss tour was brought up for discussion. Governor Nestos, who is the chairman of this committee, gave an explanation of the matter, that presumed the committee would try to get all who were thinking of going to Norway in the near future anyway, to travel next year, and send in their names, to plan on going early so that a 4th of July celebration could be celebrated at Voss by a reasonable number. He moved that the secretary write an article for "Hordaland" for those home at Voss, who have relatives here, to write to them and invite them to come home for the festivities. He moved also the question about which ship company one should take, and that The Norwegian American is preferred and next the Scandinavian, but it would be left to the board of directors to decide which.

Then there followed an election of a new board of directors, which resulted in re-election of the old, namely Wm. Nelson, Deerfield, Wis., President; Governor E. A. Nestos, Bismarck, N. Dak., Vice-president; K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., secretary; John Glimme, Chicago, Ill., treasurer. The vote was unanimous.

A motion that a committee of three, one to be the secretary, be appointed to create a resolution of thanks to the mayor of the city and its chamber of commerce was passed. Committee members were John Glimme and J. O. Lidsheim.

It was moved by Nestos that the decision, adopted in Red Wing in 1917, that the History of Voss should cost \$1.00 be annulled. Passed. Then he moved that the monies that came in as a result of this subscription be used as needed for "Vossingen". Then the meeting was closed.

During the afternoon people got tours of the city and its environs.

.TIL VOSSINGERNE PAA STEVNE
I ALBERT LEA 1922.

Fra en nabo, en Haring.

Det er vel ikke sikkert, at Vossingerne ønsker at uvedkommende skal sige noget til dem, naar de har det travelt som under sit bygdelagsstevne. Som forsøg maa det dog siges om dem, at de stadig har vist sig som en forunderlig slægt. Dette ved de nok vel selv; thi de ynder — og med flid søger — at være saadan. Sin hjembygd paa Voss har da folket der og dens kommune opbygd og fremmet alle næringsgrene i alle sine provinser, såa de er fuldt jevnbyrdige med hvemsomhelst anden kommune i gamle Norge. Det er helt eventyrligt hvad der er frembragt i sidst afledne menneskealder. Voss havde ogsaa den ære, at have en repræsentant med i Eidsvolds-forsamlingen i 1814, da gamle moder Norge var stedt i haard trængsel og havde alle Europas nationer imod sig. Spørgsmaalet var om hun skulde være værdig at eie, raade og styre i sit eget hus. Eidsvoldsværket, som heder Norges grundlov, er nu til dato gennemført i sin helhed, og er — Norges virkelige konstitution. Et elsket, berømt og fortjenstfuldt værk. Bonden Odd Davidson Klyve af Voss var med og undertegnet samarbeidet paa Eidsvold*).

Den velagtede og bekjendte jurist og dommer Odd Johanneson Vinje, født i "Tjukkebygden" paa Voss, nu i Wisconsin, er en "grand-grand" søn af Odd Klyve, og mange velagtede af denne slægt lever ogsaa herover i Amerika. Gamle vossingen — senator Knute Nelson har blandt sine gode fortjenester ogsaa den, at han har oversat den norske grundlov paa vort amerikanske nationale sprog. Et godt gjort arbejde. En anden elsket og betydningsfuldt vossing mellem mange flere bør nævnes, nemlig prof. Lars S. Reque. Som lærer ved Decorah college indplantet han megen god aandsfrugt — ikke alene som theolog men ogsaa ved at han kjendte og havde en såa grundig opfatning af den amerikanske historie og konstitution, som faa nordmænd er i besiddelse af, og som lærer bidrog han med al sin evne til at danne de unge norske til gode nyttige, amerikanske borgere. Professorens dygtige og begavede datter, som gennem aviserne har været særlig fremhævet, bør ogsaa være en stolthed eller ære for vossingerne — som for os andre norske af begge køn, og med det frisind vossingerne besidder — tilkommer det kvinden med finde ret at kunne gaa til valglokalet og afgive sin stemme.

Vossingerne har gennem en langtrækkende tidsperiode vist sig som et aands og legemskraftigt

*) Det var Bryngel Gjerager, som var med paa Eidsvold i 1814. Odd D. Kløve var paa det overordentlige storting i Kristiania om høsten samme aar. — Red.

TO THE VOSSINGS CONVENING
IN ALBERT LEA 1922

From a neighbor, a Hardanger man.

It isn't certain that vossings like that an outsider should say anything to them while they are occupied with their bygdelag convention. As a trial I must say about them that they have demonstrated themselves to be curious. This they know themselves since they desire it—and seek with diligence—to be such. The people in their home district at Voss have built up and modernized all the branches of industry in each of their provinces, so they are completely competitive with any other community in Norway. It's fabulous what they have accomplished in the last generation. Voss also has the honor of having had a representative at the Eidsvoll convention in 1814, when old mother Norway was in difficulty and all the European countries were against her. The question was if she was capable of owning, advising and controlling her own house. The Eidsvoll constitution, as the action is known as now completed in its entirety, is now—Norway's actual constitution. A precious famous and meritorious work. The farmer Odd Davidson Klyve was along and signed this cooperative effort at Eidsvoll*).

The prominent and well-known jurist and judge Odd Johanneson Vinje, born in "Tykkebyden" in Voss, now living in Wisconsin, is a "grand-grand" son of Odd Klyve; many esteemed members of this family live here in America. The old vossing—Senator Knute Nelson has, among his many good services, also translated the Norwegian constitution to our American national language. A good job. Another loved and important vossing, among many, must be mentioned, namely Lars S. Reque. As a teacher at Decorah College, he planted a lot of seeds in good minds—not only as a theologian; also, because he knew and had such a fundamental education in American history and the constitution, which few Norwegians possessed; as a teacher he tried, with all his effort, to create good useful American citizens. The professor's clever and gifted daughter, who has been prominent in the newspapers, ought also to be a pride and an honor to the vossings—as to us other Norwegians of both sexes and with the open mind vossings possess—for helping women to find the right to go to the polling places and cast their ballot.

The vossings, through a long history, have shown themselves as a spiritually and bodily strong

*) It was Bryngel Gjerager who was at Eidsvoll in 1814. Odd D. Kløve was at the extraordinary meeting of the Storting in the fall of the same year. — Ed.

folk, og med god indsigt har de gennemført sine formaal. Som en god type paa vossingerne kan anføres nu forlængst afdøde (men som vel kan erindres) i mange aar ordfører til Voss og valgt i flere terminer som storthingsmand fra Søndre Bergenshus amt, hr. Gotskalk Dugstad. Der var altid noget af indhold i hans fremsatte forslag, som var værd at lægge sig paa hjerte. Derfor nød han ogsaa stor agtelse og tillid. Dugstads søn, Mathias, har siddet i storthinget og skal være en godt kvalificeret mand, saa vosseblodet maa være standard. Den gamle folkeskolelærer i Voss, seminarist Th. Sæve var en almindelig anerkjendt. og sjelden begavet mand, som med dygtighed og troskab ydede sit allerbedste for de unges opdragelse og udvikling, der vist har sat gode merker paa ungdommen der hjemme paa Voss.

Fra Voss kom ogsaa to brødre frem i verden, opvoksede i en skoglund tæt ved Vossevangen, Brynjulf og Knut Bergslien. Hvem vil vedkjende sig at være en vossing og ikke at erindre disse verdenskjendte kunstnere som billedhugger og kunstmaler. Disse store kunstnere udførte arbejder, som er udødelige saa Lenge Voss lever.

"Verden skal være stor", sagde en gammel vosseskjærring: men Voss i sin helhed maa nu være større alligevel. Dog med alle sine provinser, saa er næsten alle og enhver opfulde med muntre og aandsvækkende eventyr og fabler, dels saa forunderlige at lytte til, at det tar til et alvorligt væsen, naar du hører dem godt fortalte — ikke at læja sig fordervad.

Paa Voss er en stor del af folket poeter. Det er eller var ikke blot. Per Sivle ude ved Stalheim, der som skjald havde en overordentlig gave. Nei, der er mange der paa Voss, som kan gjøre noget for at ens lattermuskler sættes i bevægelse. — Tænk, endog paa det meget alvorlige thingsted Vossevangen kunde ved visse paakrævede leiligheder under forhør af gamle sorenskriver Skagen (med stærkt stammende udtale) under de sørgeligste omstændigheder. udvikle sig de mest fornøielige og latterlige optrin, som nogen kunde ønske sig at overvære. Angaaende om ethvert ord udtalt under visse prosseser blev indført i den tilforordnede og autoriserede protekol — vides ikke med sikkerhed at kunne berettes.

Staten Nord Dakota, der siges at være den norske stat i hele den amerikanske union, skal ogsaa nu have en vossing til guvernør, nemlig mr. R. A. Nestos. Vi har hørt, at han personlig skal være tilstede under dette stevne og tør derfor af beskedenhed ikke at sige noget ondt om ham. og skulle man have hørt noget godt eller berømmeligt om ham, bør det nok ikke ropes ud høit; thi da vilde han formodentlig faa et helt korps af forfølgere efter sig, af dem, som ikke hylder den politik som han fremholder; men for en vossing kunde det dog maaske ikke være saa livsfarligt alligevel.

Alle fornuftige og sande borgere ønsker oprigtigt guvernøren held og lykke under sit vigtige og høie embedes forvaltning.

Vosseme som er et oplandsfolk har alletliden været et flittigt og hændigt folk i sin hjemme- eller husflidsindustri.

people, and with good insight, they have carried out their goal. As a good example of vossings long dead, (but not forgotten) for many years, mayor of Voss and elected for several terms Stortingsman from South Bergenshus Amt, Mr Gotskalk Dugstad. In each of his proposals, there was always something worth heart warming. Therefore he deserved great respect and trust. Dugstad's son, Mathias, has sat in the Storting and is a well qualified man, so Voss blood must be standard. The old folk school teacher in Voss, seminarian Th. Sæve was an ordinary recognized and unusually gifted man,, who with proficiency and diligence contributed his best to the education and development of the youth, who has left his mark on the young people at home there in Voss.

Two brothers also broke forth in the world, reared in a little forest near Vossevangen: Brynjulf and Knut Bergslien. Who could declare himself a vossing and not recall these world-renowned artists, a sculptor and painter? These artists created works that are immortal as long as Voss survives.

"The world is big", said an old woman from Voss; but Voss in its entirety must be bigger nevertheless. Yet with all its provinces, then nearly each and every one filled with amusing and mentally stimulating fairy tales and fables, some so amazing to listen to, that it takes a serious nature, when you hear them told well—not to allow yourself to be crushed.

At Voss a great number of people were poets. They simply were or weren't. Per Sivle, out at Stalheim, as a skald, had an inordinate talent. No, there were many at Voss who could do something toward setting one's laugh muscles in motion.—Think, even at the very serious courthouse at Vossevangen, in certain circumstances during hearings, the old magistrate Skagen (with strongly descending expressions) in the most sorrowful circumstances, would develop the most satisfying and ludicrous incidents which one could hope to experience. Regarding the expressions enunciated during these processes there was established the selected and authorized protocol—not the wittiest that could be justified with certainty

The state of North Dakota, which is said to be the most Norwegian state in all of the American union, is now to have a vossing as governor, namely Mr. R. A. Nestos. We have heard that he shall be present at this convention in person and we therefore don't dare to take this opportunity to say anything negative about him, and if one has heard anything good or famous about him, we shouldn't be too loud about it or he might get a entire corps of followers, those who have similar politics as he promotes; but I don't think it would be too dangerous for a vossing nevertheless.

All reasonable and honest citizens genuinely wish the governor good fortune and luck during his important and high administrative position.

The vossings, who are an upper land people, have always been a clever and industrious group in their home

Hvem husker vel ikke det solide vossevadmél, som lavedes og klingende kobjelder sammen med meget andt rart som forarbejdedes. Følgelig var vossingerne i det hele et handelsfolk og der var et stort antal af hestehandlere og en del noget lidt lovløse kramkarer, hvorom af begge klasser der lever de snodigste historier.

Vossingerne var og er særdeles gjæstfrie, saasom den gamle norske skik har foreholdt. Ved udstillinger ved bryllupper og ved sine fester overalt var de muntre og hyggelige. Vossingenres ungdom var livsfyrig og kraftig og naar originalen af en spillemand, Ole Mosefin, med sin Hardangerfiolin lod sine klingende toner bruse ud iblandt forsamlingen, da kan dere tro, at dansen gik til sit fulde maal. Der var glæde, munterhed overalt.

Som ethvert skrøbeligt folk har vel vossingerne ogsaa sine byrder at overvinde og betvinge; men det tilønskes oprigtigt, at alle gode egenskaber vossingerne besidder ikke maa visne bort eller dø men blive forfremmede og beplantede over paa den kommende unge slægt til fælles lykke og velsignelse.

Erbødigst.
O. L. A.

**FRA NOGLE AF DE FØRSTE UDVANDRERE
FRA VOSS. BREV FRA MUSKEGO, RACINE
CO., WIS.**

velagtede Anders Torgersen Grane, Voss Præstegjæld,
Bergens Stift, Vossevangens Postaabneri Norge.
Til kjære forældre, samt søskende og gode venner!

Efter løfte tager jeg mig den frihed at skrive eder til nogle linier om hvorledes vi lever og hvor vi opholder os nu. Da vi kom til Boston, da skrev jeg et brev i fallig med de andre ifra Graue og sendte til Norge, om hvorledes det gik os paa søen. Det var dateret den 25de oktober sidstleden. Colbein Vestreim og Niels Vike sendte hver sit brev ogsaa paa samme tid. Alle blev sendte i posten. Samme dag reiste vi fra Boston og over land, nogle mile paa en dampvogn og til Providence. Man fortæller, at vi reiste henimot 30 engelske mile i timen. Siden reiste vi paa en stor dampbaad derifra og til New York og op igjennem Hudson floden til Albany. Der blev alt vort tøj veiet, og vi blev da bragt ind paa en kanalbaad og ginge opover kanalen igjennem mange sluser og kom til Buffalo. Kanalbaaden blev trækket af 2 heste. Da vi kom til Buffalo var allerede farten for dampbaadene over indsøerne stoppet. Da det led saa langt ud paa høsten maatte vi hyre os ud paa en stor brig, som laa færdig og skulde gaa til Milwaukee og Racine i Wisconsin stat med last. Paa samme brig gik vi over Erie sø. Huron sø, Michigan sø og kom til Racine den 28de november. Der standset vi nogle dage og talte med 3 brødre ifra Danmark, som bor der. De gav os underretning om, hvor vi skulde komme til de nærmeste forhen indvandrede nordmænd. Det var omtrent 3 norske mile landevei ifra

or craft industry. Who doesn't recall their solid homespun, which laundered so well and their cowbells as well as a lot else they manufactured. It follows that vossings in general were merchants and there was a large number of horse traders and a number of illegal peddlers whereof from both groups there survive the most whimsical stories.

The vossings were and are especially hospitable, just like old Norwegian custom dictated. At exhibitions at their weddings and their celebrations everywhere they were cheerful and pleasant. The vossing youth were robust and strong and when the distinctive musician, Ole Mosefin, with his Hardanger violin let forth his resounding tones among the gathering, you can believe the dancing broke out at full speed. There was happiness and joy everywhere.

As any fragile people the vossings probably have their burdens to overcome and subdue, but it is sincerely wished, that all the good qualities that the vossings possess will not fade away or die but remain outstanding and be planted in the young coming generations for our common happiness and blessing.

Respectfully
O. L. A.

**FROM SOME OF THE FIRST IMMIGRANTS
FROM VOSS. LETTERS FROM MUSKEGO, RACINE
CO., WI.**

Esteemed Anders Torgerson Graue, Voss Parish,
Bergens Diocese, Vossevangen's Post Office, Norway
To my dear parents, and siblings and good friends!

As I promised I take this occasion to write thee some lines about how we are and what we are doing now. When we got to Boston I wrote you a letter mutually with the others from Graue and sent it to Norway about how we got along at sea. It was dated last October 25. Colbein Vestreim and Niels Vike each sent a letter at the same time. All were put in the mail. That same day, we went overland from Boston, some miles on a steam wagon to Providence. We were told that we went upwards of thirty miles an hour. Then we traveled on a big steamboat from there to New York and up via the Hudson River to Albany. There they weighed all our gear, and we were brought onto a canal boat and we went up over the canal through many sluices and arrived at Buffalo. The canal boat was pulled by two horses. When we arrived in Buffalo, all steam travel over the Great Lakes had stopped (for the winter-Ed.) Since it was so far out in the fall, we had to hire us out on a big sailing brig which lay ready and was going to Milwaukee and Racine in Wisconsin with freight. The same brig crossed Lake Erie, Lake Huron, and Lake Michigan and arrived at Racine November 28. We stopped there a few days and talked to three brothers from Denmark, who lived there. They gave us directions how we could reach the previously immigrated Norwegians. It

Racine til Muskego, hvor vi nu er og fik komme ind i gode hus hos norske mænd. Jeg og Ole Graue og Colbein Vestreim vi kom ind i hus til en mand ifra Drammen, som hedder Søren Bakke. Rasmus Graue kom ind til en mand ifra Jardals Prestegjeld og Sjur Graue kom ind til en mand, som var fra samme præstegjeld. Disse var ifra Christian-sands stift i Norge. Vi kom alle ind til gode folk. Knud Bøe og Niels Vike reiste ifra Racine og til Chicago i Illinois stat. Der blev Knud Bøe igjen og Niels Vike reiste tilbage hertil igjen og har siden været i hus med os hos Søren Bakke. Steinvor Graue satte sig i tjeneste til en amerikaner i Racine. Anna Selheim og Guri Graue reiste nogle engelske mile op i landet ifra staden Racine og satte sig i tjeneste til amerikanere. Alle have levet vel med helse til denne tid, som jeg ikke andet har hørt, og leve vel. Anders Lie reiste længere vest til sin verbroder Niels Gilderhus.

Denne Søren Bakke, som vi er hos, og en som hedder Johannes og en som hedder Even, bor i samme hus og er ifra Drammen og have kjøbt isammen 900 acres land, og har lovet mange andre af sine landsmænd penge til at købe sig land for. For 2 1/2 aar siden var her ingen ifra Norge i Muskego, men nu har her allerede nedsat sig over 200 mand, største delen er fra Vestlandet og Tinds præstegjeld og nogle ifra Stavanger. Her er nu det største settlement af nordmænd, som nogensteds findes i Amerika.

De forhen indvandrede nordmænd fra Voss er en del i Chicago, andre i Missouri og Iowa og ved Fox River og endel er her i Wisconsin stat. Omtrent 60 engelske mile i vest fra os; der hvor Niels Gilderhus bor og nogle ifra Nummedal.

Her i Wisconsin skal være et sundt og godt land, og de ved ikke af saadan sygdom her, som der er i Illinois stat. Naar man kommer længere i nord skal jordbunden være noget ringere end her. Her er en mængde skov i Wisconsin paa sine steder, mere end der i Illinois. Skoven bestaar for det meste af eg, ask, alm, lind, sukkertræer og mange andre sorter. Naar man kommer lidt længere i nord skal der være en mængde furu og granskov. Ellers er her af alle sorter træ, som var i Norge. I New York stat og ved de store indsøer, som vi gik over var en mængde skov. Landet ligger ganske lavt her i Wisconsin, og ved de store indsøer, med smaa forhøininger, men i New York stat var landet højere, ligesom smaa aaser og steile bakker. Paa sine steder her er jordbunden tung og leiragtig og bærer frugt uden gjødsel. Her er mange smaa vande, som er en mængde fisk i, og her gaar mange floder i Wisconsin, som tar op våndet som falder af de smaa fiskevande. Fox River er en flod, som gaar her igjennem Muskego og ned igjennem Illinois og falder ud i Mississippifloden. Den er den nærmeste flod vi har. Milwaukee er den største by og vigtigste handelsstad for den østlige del af Wisconsin. Den ligger omtrent 24 engelske mile længere i nord ved Michigan søen end Racine. Ellers er her mange smaa landsbyer, som er nylig anlagte.

was about 3 Norwegian miles overland from Racine to Muskego, where we now are and were given housing by a Norwegian man. Ole Graue, Colbein Vestreim and I got in a cabin with a man from Drammen, whose name is Søren Bakke. Rasmus Graue moved in with a man from Jardal parish and Sjur Graue with a man from the same parish. They were from Kristiansand's Diocese in Norway. We all got in with good people. Knud Bøe and Niels Vike went from Racine to Chicago in the state of Illinois. Knud Bøe stayed there but Niels Vike came back here again and has since stayed in a cabin with Søren Bakke. Steinvor Graue signed up for service with an American in Racine. Anna Selheim and Guri Graue went some English miles up from the town of Racine and started service for Americans. They have all been in good health until now, as I have not heard otherwise, and live well. Anders Lie went farther west to his brother-in-law Niels Gilderhus.

This Søren Bakke, where we are staying, and one named Johannes and another named Even are from Drammen, live in the same cabin and have purchased 900 acres of land and have promised many other of their countrymen money to buy land. Two and a half years ago there was nobody from Norway in Muskego, but now already 200 men have settled here, the majority from the West Country and Tinds Parish and some from Stavanger. Here, now, is the biggest settlement of Norwegians that is found anywhere in America.

The previously immigrated Norwegians from Voss are some in Chicago, others in Missouri and Iowa and at Fox River and a number are here in the state of Wisconsin; about 60 English miles west of here, where Niels Gilderhus and some people from Nummedal live.

There is supposed to be healthy and good country here in Wisconsin, and no illness is known here, like in the state of Illinois. When one gets a little farther north the soil is somewhat poorer than here. There is a lot of forest in Wisconsin, in certain places, more than in Illinois. The woods consist mainly of oak, ash, elm, linden maple and many other varieties. When one gets a little farther north there is supposed to be amounts of fir and pine. Otherwise there are all types of tree, just like Norway. In the state of New York and along the big lakes we traveled over, were many forests. The terrain in Wisconsin is quite low by the big lakes and with small hills, but in the state of New York the land was higher, with small ridges and steep hills. At certain places the soil is heavy and contains clay and bears a good yield without manure. There are many small lakes which contain many fish, and there are rivers in Wisconsin, which collect the water from the small lakes. Fox River is a river that goes through Muskego, down through Illinois and falls into the Mississippi River. It is our nearest river. Milwaukee is the most important business city in eastern Wisconsin. It is located about 24 English miles farther north on Lake Michigan than Racine. Besides there are many small villages that have been recently established.

Efter at vi var komne her til Muskego i vinter og havde talt med de andre nordmænd, som bor her og vi hørte at landet skulde være frugtbar og godt saa har vi seet os ud et stykke land her i Muskego en del af os, som vi har kjøbt, og vi finder os vel tilfredse med det. Jeg har kjøbt til mig 120 Acres land, Rasmus har kjøbt 120 acres, Ole har kjøbt 100 acres og Colbein har kjøbt 40 acres. Det ligger saaledes, at vi eie til mærket med hverandre og det ligger så godt som indringet mellem 3 fiskevande. Vi har en mængde skov paa vor eiendom. Meste skoven, som vi har, er eg, alm, ask, lind og ellers har vi mange andre sorter træer; men ikke så meget af disse, nemlig: asp, sukkertræer, kirsebærtræer, hassel, æbletræer, hickory og plommetræer. Amerikanerne fortæller, at det skal være udmærket godt land det vi har kjøbt. 1 acre skal være lidt over 3 maal i Norge. 1 acre kan man pløje op i en dag med 6 studer. Det koster fra 2 til 2½ dollars. Det er ikke vanskeligt at pløje i skoven, man kan pløje lige ind til stammen, naar træerne er afhuggede fordi rødderne er saa smaa. De mænd ifra Norge, som bor her, fortæller, at de saa ud i 1 acre noget over 2 skjæpper med vinterhvede, og det har hændt sig at de har faaet igjen 20 tønder. Af indianskorn planter man ud lidt over 2 kander i en acre, og kan faa igjen 11 a 12 tønder. Af poteter kan man faa igjen fra 20 til 30 fold efter udsæden.

Maden hvoraf man bruger almindelig til daglig føde her for folk er brød af hvedemel og indianskommel, og af suel spises flæsk et par gange paa dagen og poteter og smør spises ikke så ofte af, som af flæsk, fordi det er noget dyrere end flæsken efter anparten. Man bruger thevand og kaffe næsten til hvert maaltid. Madvarerne er meget billig pris paa her. 1 skaalepund hvedemel sigtet og bydlet, af det bedste, koster 2 cent og 1 skaalepund indianskorn 1 cent. Et skaalepund flæsk koster 2 cent og kjød 21/2 cent. Smør koster om vinteren 14 cent og om sommeren 8 cent pundet. Dette kommer sig af at kreaturene gaar ude om vinteren og fryser, saa at melken tager ganske godt som af. Men om sommeren melker de meget mere her end i Norge og kreaturene bliver meget fede om sommeren. Svinene føder sig selv om sommeren og lever af nødder og de bliver meget federe her om sommeren end gjødselsvinene nogensinde i Norge.

Her er sagmølle og møllebrug omtrent 1/2 norsk mil i vest for vor eiendom i Fox Elver. Floderne kalder man her for river, og vandene for lakes. 2 kjørestuter koster fra 30 til 50 dollar, 1 ko koster fra 13 til 16 dollars, 1 hest fra 40 til 80 dollars efter som de er store til. En arbejdsvogn fra 50 til 60 dollars, en jernkile, som de bruger til at kløve rails med til gjerdefang koster 1 dollar. En høgaffel, som man bruger til at samle hø isammen med, naar det er nedslaaet, koster 1 dollar. Høgaffelen er af jern og af facon akkurat som en spisegaffel med 2 steeg, hver steeg er 8 tommer langt. Den er fæstet i enden paa et langt skaft, som et riveskaft.

After we had arrived here in Muskego this winter and had talked with the other Norwegians that live here and we learned that the land was productive and good, we sought out a piece of land here in Muskego, a number of us who have purchased are very satisfied with it. I have bought 120 acres; Rasmus has bought 120 acres, Ole has bought 100 acres and Colbein 40 acres. It lies in such a manner, that we join each other and we enclose 3 fishing lakes. We have a good deal of woods on our property. Most of the forest we own is oak, elm, ash, linden and else wise many other types, but not so many aspen, maple, cherry, hazelnut, apple trees, hickory and plum trees. The Americans tell us that we have purchased extraordinarily good land. 1 acre is a little more than 3 mål in Norway. One acre can be plowed up in one day with six oxen. It costs from 2 to 2½ dollars. It is not difficult to plow in the woods; one can plow right up to the stumps when the trees are cut down because the roots are so small. The men from Norway that live here tell us they sow in one acre about a little over 2 skjæpper (=2 pecks?) of winter wheat and it has happened that they have harvested 20 barrels from it. They plant about 2 kander (2 bushels?) of Indian corn per acre and harvest about 11 to 12 barrels. One can get 20-30 times in harvest of potatoes more than one plants.

The food used ordinarily for daily fare here is bread made of wheat flour or Indian corn meal and regularly we eat sidepork a couple times a day, not so often butter and potatoes because they are somewhat more expensive than meat. It is usual to use tea or coffee each meal. Food products are quite reasonable here. One pound of wheat flour, sifted and measured, of the best, costs 2 cents and one pound of Indian cornmeal 1 cent. A pound of sidepork cost 2 cents and meat 2½ cents. In the winter, butter costs 14 cents and in the summer 8 cents a pound. This comes from the cattle being out in the winter and they are cold so that the milk is harder to get. But in the summer they produce much more than in Norway and the cattle become quite fat. The pigs just feed themselves in the summer and live off nuts and they become quite fatter here in the summer than the dung pigs ever do in Norway.

We have a sawmill and grain mill, on the Fox River, about ½ Norwegian miles west of our property. Rivers here are called "rivers" and lakes "lakes". 2 driving oxen cost from 30 to 50 dollars, 1 cow costs from 13 to 16 dollars, 1 horse from 40 to 80 dollars according to their quality. A work wagon from 50 to 60 dollars. An iron wedge, which we use to split rails for a rail fence costs 1 dollar. A hay fork, such as one uses to gather hay, when it has been cut, costs 1 dollar. The hay fork is of iron and is made exactly like an eating fork with two tines, each 8 inches long. They are fastened to the end of a long shaft, like a rake.

Svensk jern koster i Mihvaukee 7 cent for 1 skaalepund, amerikansk jern 5 cent, east staal (støbestaal) koster 25 cent pundet og en ringere sort staal koster 12 cent pundet. Det indføres ifra Sverige, men det bedste staal fabrikeres i sydstatene her i Amerika. Dette slags staal er det de bruger til bidtjern og bliver lige saa gode bidtjern af dette slags staal, som de høveljern, der er i Bergen i Norge, som indføres ifra England. En smediestæd koster i Buffalo 13 dollars og veier 3 bismerpund. De er af facon, som de smediestæer eller ambolter der indføres fra England og til Bergen i Norge, Mindre smediestæer er ikke at faa her men meget større. En dobbelt høveltand koster i Milwaukie 75 cent. Det er samme pris enten de er store eller smaa. En hugøxe koster 1 dollar og 35 cent og samme pris enten de er store eller smaa. Disse øxer er langt bedre til at hugge med end de norske hugøxer. Øxen er 7 tommer lang $4\frac{1}{2}$ tomme bred i æggen og $3\frac{1}{2}$ tomme bred i hammeren og ikke fuldt 1 tomme tykke. Slibestene koster fra $1\frac{1}{2}$ til 2 cent pundet. En bindøxe koster fra $3\frac{1}{2}$ til $4\frac{1}{2}$ dollars. Et sagblad paa 5 kvart længde og 2 tommers bredde, som man bruger til at sage ved med, koster 75 cent, men disse er langt ifra saa gode som de engelske sagblade man kan faa i Bergen i Norge. Store sagblade til at skjære af store tykke tømmerstokke med, koster fra $4\frac{1}{2}$ til 5 dollars. De er 4 alen lange og 7 tommer brede paa midten og i endene $3\frac{1}{2}$ tomme. Tænderne er skarpe paa begge sider og afhugget 1 tand imellem hver, som skjærer. Brynestener koster fra 12 til 25 cent pr. stykke og er gode. Her er mange af de norske, som beklager sig over at de ikke havde med sig brynestene ifra Norge og ligedan gode engelske sagblade, samt gode slaguhr. Et simpelt døgn stueslaguhr koster her fra 10 til 15 dollars.

Jeg og Ole, og Rasmus har kjøbt hver sin kogeovn for 19 dollars og der fulgte med hver ovn 2 gryder og 1 stegepande af malm, 1 kaffekjedel og 2 stegepander til at stege brød i. Disse ovne er isammensatte og aldeles færdige og med malmfødder, naar man kjøber dem. Jeg vilde ønske at der skulde være saadanne ovne at faa i Norge, saa tror jeg at største delen af norske ovne snart skulde blive reducerede. Her er malmstrøberi i Milwaukie, der kan man faa støbt hvad man vil, naar man skaffer dem model af træ. Det koster 7 cent pundet. Prisen paa jern, staal, malm, og bidtjern er meget billigere i Boston og New York end det er her oppe i landet. En tønde salt koster her $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars. Det føres hertil ifra en by, som ligger ved kanalen imellem Albany og Buffalo. Der er en liden indsø, som der er salt vand i og som det samles ud af. Det er overmaade godt salt, hvidt, og det bliver malet og ført i tønder op i landet.

Jeg vil ikke raade nogen til at føre qverne med sig fra Norge og hertil, fordi her er langt bedre qverne end der er i Norge. Her er en mølle i Fox River her i nærheden, som kan male imellem 40 og 50 tønder mel af hvede i et døgn, endda kan man faa det saa fint sigtet

Swedish iron, in Milwaukie, costs 7 cents a pound, American iron 5 cents, east steel (cast steel) costs 25 cents a pound and a better type of steel costs 12 cents a pound. It is imported from Sweden, but the best steel is manufactured in the southern states here in America. This kind of steel is used for tool steel and makes just as good tools from this kind of steel as the plane blades that are in Bergen in Norway that are imported from England. A forge costs 13 dollars in Buffalo and weighs 3 bismerpounds (bismerpound=12 pounds). They are made like the forges and anvils that are imported from England to Bergen in Norway. We can't get smaller forges but much bigger ones. A double tongs costs 75 cents in Milwaukie. It's the same price whether they are big or small. A chopping ax costs 1 dollar and 35 cents and same whether big or small. These axes are far better to chop with than the Norwegian axes. The axes are 7 inches long, $4\frac{1}{2}$ broad at the edge, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ broad at the hammer and not quite an inch thick. Grindstones cost from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 cents a pound. A trimming ax costs from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ dollars. A saw blade 5 hands long and 2 inches wide, that you can use to saw wood, costs 75 cents, but they aren't near as good as the English saw blades you can get in Bergen. Big saw blades, to saw off big timber logs with, cost $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 dollars. They are 4 cubits long and 7 inches broad in the middle and $3\frac{1}{2}$ at the ends. The teeth are sharpened on both sides and every other tooth is removed from those remaining, which cut. Whetstones cost 12 to 25 cents each and are good. There are many Norwegians that complain they don't have whetstones from Norway and likewise English saw blades and good striking clocks. A simple daily living room striking clock cost from 10 to 15 dollars here.

Ole, Rasmus and I have each bought a cooking stove including 2 kettles and 1 frying pan of cast iron, 1 coffee pot and 2 pans for baking bread. These stoves are all assembled and completely finished with cast iron feet, when one buys them. I would wish on could get such stoves in Norway, then I believe the number of the Norwegian stoves would be reduced. There is a foundry in Milwaukie where one can have cast what one wants, if only you provide them with a wood model. It costs 7 cents a pound. The prices of tool steel, steel, cast iron and iron are lots cheaper in Boston and New York than here up in the country. A barrel of salt costs $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars here. It is imported from a small town between Albany and Buffalo, where there is a small lake, with salt water, from which it is collected. It is exceptionally good salt, white, and it is ground and hauled up in the country in barrels.

I wouldn't advise anyone to bring mills along from Norway because they have much better mills here than in Norway. There is a mill near here on the Fox River that can grind between 40 and 59 barrels of wheat a day, yet one can find as finely sifted and bagged

og bydlet, som man vil have det, endog det gaar ikke paa qvernen mere end en gang og det males uden at bliver tørret, lige-som de gjør i Norge. — Prisen paa landet her i Wisconsin er 1 dollar og 25 cent for hver acre. Den pris er fastsat af regjeringen. Land officen for Wisconsin, som man maa gaa til, naar man vil købe land, er i Milwaukee. I Land-officen tar de ikke andre mynter end spanske Piastre, 5-franker og amerikanske sølvdollars. Guldpenge ved jeg ikke vist enten de tar eller ikke, papir penge tar de ikke. Ellers er her baade papirpenge og sølvpenge; men her er ikke mindre sedler end en dollar. Af sølvpenge bruges her 1 dollar, 1/2 dollar, 1/8 dollar, 1/16 dollar. Mindre mynter er her ikke. 1 dollar er 100 cent. 1 cent er saameget som 1 skilling i Norge, 1 spansk piaster gjælder lige med en amerikansk dollar her. 1 fem-frank gjælder 5 cent mindre.

Jeg maa fortælle, hvorledes amerikanerne bygger sig huse, naar de køber sig land og sætter sig ned som nybyggere. Da faar de naboerne til at hjælpe sig og de hugger tømmer og bygger op et lidet hus samme dag. Dagen efter kløver de shingle til taget paa huset og dækker det og siden hugger de fliser og driver ind i de største aabninger imellem væggene og kliner det siden fuldt med lere, hvor der findes aabninger imellem væggene. Saa er huset færdigt paa et par dage. Men det er saa usselt bygget, at der findes næppe en Udlade paa Voss, som er saa usselt bygget, som disse huse. Da begynder de til at dyrke paa jorden. De bor i disse Hytter i nogle aar indtil de har faaet jorden opdyrket og kommet sig lidt til formue, saa bygger de sig op gode og pene huse, lig dem man har i byerne her i de vestlige fristater. De faar tømmeret skaaret paa sagmøller, akkurat af tykkelse og længde, som det skal være. Derpaa sætter de op stolper saa stort som huset skal være og klædor det med bord udvendig og indvendig, saa kløver de tynde bord i smale strimler, som er en tomme brede og slaar fast til stolpene, saaledes at man sætter igjen et aabent rum 1/4 tomme bred mellem hver af strimlerne. Siden bedækker man alt indvendig af væggene med en deig blandet af kalk og sand. Da ser det ut indvendig som det skulde være opført af mursten. Taget belægges først med bord og siden tækker man med shingles. Til et hus som er 7 alen (14 fod) langt og 8 alen (16 fod) bredt gaar der lidt over 1200 fod shingle. Shinglet er enten af eg eller furu. Det er 3/4 alen langt og 1/4 alen bredt, 1/2 tomme tykt i den ene ende og i den anden ende er det skavet ganske tvndt, som en egg. Shinglet spigrer de til, naar den er nedlagt og den lægges omtrent som man lægger bæller naar der tækkes med hæller paa Voss i Norge. En mand kan kløve op en 400 a 500 shingle for dagen, ellers er her en maskine i nærheden af os ved Fox Eiver, hvor de kløver saadan shingle.

Jeg skulde have lyst til at skrive til Eder om mange ting, men jeg faar sætte det ud til sommeren. Da vil Søren Bakke, som er hos oss, gjøre en snartur

as one would want it even after only one trip to the mill and it is ground without being dried as they do in Norway. — The price of land here in Wisconsin is 1 dollar 25 cents for each acre. The price is established by the government. The Land Office for Wisconsin, which we have to go to when we want to buy land, is in Milwaukee. They don't accept any coin except Spanish Piasters, 5 Francs and American silver dollars. I don't know if they accept gold money or not; paper they don't accept. Otherwise here we have both silver and paper money but no smaller bills than one dollar. In silver money, we use here 1 dollar, 1/2 dollar, 1/8 dollar and 1/16 dollar. There are no smaller coins 1 dollar is 100 cents. 1 cent is about the same as a shilling in Norway, 1 Spanish Piaster is similar to an American dollar here, 1 five Franc is worth 5 cents less.

I must tell how the Americans build houses, when they buy land and settle as pioneers. Then they get their neighbors to help them and they chop timbers and build a small cabin in one day. The next day they split shingles for the roof and cover the roof, then they cut splinters and drive into the largest openings in the walls and caulk it full of clay wherever they find openings. Thus the house is ready in a couple days. But it is built so miserably that there isn't an outbuilding or loft at Voss built as poorly as these. Then they start to cultivate the soil. They live in these cabins a few years until the land is all cultivated and they have progressed financially, when they build good, pretty houses, just like they have in the towns here in the western free states. They're sawed in a sawmill to proper thickness and length, as it should be. They erect posts appropriate to the size of the house and nail on boards both inside and out, then they split thin boards into narrow lath that are an inch wide and nail them to the posts so that there is a 1/4 inch opening between each of the lath. Then all of the interior walls are covered with a plaster made of lime and sand. Then it looks on the surface as if it were made of stone blocks. The roof is first covered with boards and then with shingles. A house that is 7 alen (14 feet) long and 8 alen (16 feet) wide needs 1200 feet of shingles. The shingles are of oak or pine. They are 3/4 alen long and 1/4 alen wide, 1/2 inch thick at one end and narrow to the thickness of egg shell on the other. The shingles are nailed in place when they are laid, and they are laid similarly to slates when they make roofs of slate in Norway. One man can split up to 400 to 500 shingles a day, otherwise here they have a machine near us by Fox River that splits such shingles.

I would really like to write to Thee about many things, but I guess I'll have to put it off until summer. Then Søren Bakke, who is with us, will make a short

til Norge, saa skal jeg sende brev med ham til eder. Rygtet siger, at Ellend Synve skal have bestemt sig til at gjøre en snartur til Norge ogsaa til sommeren; men om det bliver ved jeg ikke vist, fordi han har været i Illinois i vinter, saa jeg har ikke talt med ham endnu.

Vinteren til denne tid har været ganske mild. Det koldeste del var i vinter det var 14 graders kulde en dag; men siden har det ikke kommet længere ned end til 5 a 6 grader. Marken har været bedækket af sne siden lidt før jul og det høieste den har været er 12 tommer. Dagen er længere her om vinteren og kortere om sommeren end dagene er i Norge. Før jul da dagene er paa det korteste gaar solen op klokken 7 og 28 minutter og gaar ned klokken 4 og 32 minutter. Den 21de juni gaar solen op klokken 4 og 32 minutter og ned kl. 7 og 28 minutter. Det sted hvor vi bor, ligger under den 43de breddegrad. Jeg har et kart over hele Nordamerikas Fristater og jeg tænker paa at sende et saadant til Norge til Sommeren, naar Bakke reiser. Han tager det med sig til Drammen og det vil muligens tage en tid førend han kan finde leilighed til at sende det til Voss. Finder han ikke sikker leilighed, saa sender han det i posten.

Dette brev sender jeg i posten, saa I kan faa vide hvor vi er, om ville sende os brev, om nogen skulde komme hertil til sommeren og lade os faa vide hvorledes I lever.

Rasmus Graue has sat Anna og Ingeri i tjeneste til amerikanere og de staa sig godt. De faa gaa i skole og lære sig til at læse engelsk sprog. Omtrent en norsk mil fra os er der en kirke i en liden by, hvor der læres engelsk sprog.

Nordmændene taler om at de, om nogle aar ville sætte op en kirke og faa en præst som kan tale norsk.

Hvem jeg taler med af de norske siger at de er lykkelige, som var istand til at koste sig hertil. De som ikke har noget vist ophold i Norge, især unge og friske folk, som maa slæbe under andre. Tjenestelønnen er her for en dreng, som tjener hele aaret i det mindste 120 dollars og for en pige over 50 dollars. Tøserne kommer ikke ud til noget arbeide udenfor huset. De koger, vasker og holder rent i huset. Jeg vil ikke raade nogen til at tage andre mynter med sig end spanske Piastre, femfrankere og guldspege. En dansk ducat gaar her for 2 dollars og 23 cent; men disse gaar ikke i landofficen. Sovereign af guld derimod gaar i landsofficerne for 4 dollars og 84 cent. En norsk speciedaler gaar for 1 dollar. Andre norske mynter gaar ikke her.

Endnu maa jeg melde lidt om hvorledes man sætter staalet i hugøxer, man bruger her. Man kløver lidt ned i Bladet paa øxen og lægger staalet der ind i, saaledes at staalet gaar noget over en tomme længere frem af bladet end jernet, saa at det ligger ganske bart, fordi da er det ikke saa meget udsat for at faa herslebræster som naar jernet gaar lige langt frem som staalet.

trip to Norway. Then I'll send you a letter with him. Rumors have it that Ellend Synve has trip trip to Norway next summer, but if that's for sure I don't know, because he has been in Illinois this winter so I haven't talked with him yet.

The weather this winter has been rather mild. The coldest spell was when it was 14 cold degrees (6 below F.) one day, but since it hasn't got worse than 5 or 6 degrees. The fields have been covered with snow since a little before Christmas and the deepest it has been is 12 inches. The days are longer here in the winter and the days shorter in the summer than the days in Norway. Before Christmas when the days are the shortest the sun rises at 28 minutes after 7 and goes down at 4:32 PM. The 21st of June the sun rises at 4:32 AM and sets at 7:28 PM. The place where we live lies under the 43rd latitude. I have a map over all the Free States and I think I will send such to Norway this summer when Bakke travels. He will take it with him to Drammen and there will probably be some time before he finds an opportunity to send it to Voss. If he doesn't find an opportunity he will send it in the mail.

I'm sending this letter to you in the mail so that Thee can learn how we fare, if you would send us a letter if anyone should come here this summer and let us know how Thee live.

Rasmus Graue has put Anna and Ingeri in service for some Americans and they are doing well. They are able to go to school and learn to read English. About a Norwegian mile from us there is a church in a little town where English is taught.

The Norwegians are talking about that they, in a few years, will build a church and get a minister who can talk Norwegian.

Those Norwegians that I talk to say that they are happy, those that are making a living. Those that don't have a esure livelihood in Norway especially the young and healthy, have to depend on another. The salary for a young hired man who works the whole year is 120 dollars a year and for a young woman is over 50 dollars. Girls don't get a salary outside the home. They cook, wash and clean house at home. I wouldn't advise anyone to take other coinage than Spanish Piasters, Five-franc pieces or gold. A Danish ducat is worth 2 dollars and 23 cents here, but they are not accepted in the Land Office. Sovereigns of gold, however, are accepted at 4 dollars and 84 cents. A Norwegian Speciedaler is worth 1 dollar. Other Norwegian coins are not accepted.

I still must tell more about how one inserts the steel that one uses in the wood axes used here. First one splits a little into the blade of an ax, and then welds in some steel so that it projects about an inch further than the iron so that it is bare, then one is less likely to get nicks in it as when the iron sticks out even with the steel.

Den vei, som vi gik op igjennem fra New York og hertil er den almindelige vei, som man gaar op igjennem landet, naar man vil gaa hertil Wisconsin, eller Illinois. Det er baade den billigste og korteste vei, som man kan komme frem igjennem. Reisen kan gøres paa 15 dage naar man gaar paa dampbaadene over indsøerne. Vi betalte 13 dollars for hver voksen person fra Boston og hertil. Da havde vi frit til hver person 100 skaal pund, ellers er det alnrdelig at man maa betale for hvert 100 pund over indsøerne, saa man har frit 1 1/4 dollars paa kanalen.

Da jeg har været her kun en kort tid og ikke ved af egen erfaring saa meget om forholdene, men maa rette mig efter hvad, som jeg har hørt andre fornuftige mænd, som er komne hertil før siger.

Jeg kan ikke raade nogen hverken til eller fra at komme hertil. Enhver maa have sin egen frie vilje. Man fortæller her, at et 10 acres landstykke skal være letter at ernære en familie paa end nogen af de bedste gaarde paa Voss.

Jeg skal bede Eder hilse fra Rasmus Graue, Ole Graue, Niels Vike og Colben Vestreim, at de lever vel og finder sig vel tilfredse med at de er komne hertil, og til sommeren skal de faa brev fra dem. Jeg beder Eder hilse til Bryngel Møen og fortælle at Lars Godskalksen Hægle har kjøbt sig land i Fox River i Illinois og er gift og staar sig godt. Dette har jeg da hørt fortelling om.

Jeg vil nu afbryde min skrivelse med kjærlig hilsen til Eder at jeg lever vel, og er vel tilfreds med at jeg er kommet hertil. Naar De sender os brev, da maa De skrive udskriften paa brevet saaledes. Til Lars Johannessen Møen i Muskego i Wisconsin i de Nordamerikanske Fristater i Nordamerika.

Muskego den 1ste februar 1842.

Lars Johannessen Møen.

RACINE COUNTY, WISCONSIN TERRITORY, 1842

Til Lars Kjelson Takle, Voss Prestegjæld, Bergens Stift, Norge.

Da her gives leilighed, vil jeg skrive nogle ord angaaende mit her befindende; og saa vil jeg bekjeudtgjøre for Eder en enfoldig etterretning om Amerika. Jeg er nu med kone og børn vel med helsen og er fomøiet. Jeg flyttede fra Illinois til Wisconsin, hvor de fleste norske har bosat sig, og jeg kjøbte der 81 acres med land for regeringens pris, og dette landstykke holder jeg bedre end en laup jordegods i Norge. Min formue bestaar af 15 kreaturer med smaat og stort, og 6 sauer, da vi her kan føde og avle kreaturer meget let. I forledne aar havde jeg 11 stykker og samlede hør for dem i en tid af 3 uger alene, undtagen min kone hjalp mig imellem stunder. At Dere faar saa mange forskjellige beretninger om Amerika kommer tildels af uerfarenhed, dels af menneskers skjæbne her, saavel som i andre dele af verden. Sandt er at de, som vil reise hertil, maa udstaa forskjellige prøver for det første. Men især, hvad

The route we took up through New York to here is the usual way that people go cross-country when they want to reach Wisconsin or Illinois. It's both the cheapest and shortest way to get here. The trip can be made in 15 days when one takes the steamboats over the Great Lakes. We paid 13 dollars for each grown-up from Boston to here. Then we had 100 skaal pounds free for each person, otherwise it is usual to pay for each 100 pounds over the lakes, so we had 1 1/4 dollars free on the canal.

Since I have only been here a short time and don't know much about the conditions from my own experience, I have to rely on other men of good judgment, who have come here before me.

I cannot advise anyone either away from or toward coming over here. Each must have his own free will. It is said here that a 10-acre piece of land would provide a family with a better living than the best farm at Voss.

I am to greet you from Rasmus Graue. Ole Graue, Niels Vike and Colben Vestreim, and that they live well and find themselves satisfied that they came here and you shall get a letter from them this summer. I ask Thee to greet Bryngel Moen and tell him that Lars Godskalksen Hægle has bought land at Fox River in Illinois, is married and is thriving well. I have heard talk of this.

I now want to end my letter with a dear greeting to Thee that you I live well and am satisfied that I came here. When you send us letters you must put the address on the outside thus. To Lars Johannessen Møen in Muskego in Wisconsin in the Northamerican Free States in North America.

Muskego, February 1, 1842.

Lars Johannessen Møen

RACINE COUNTY, WISCONSIN TERRITORY, 1842

To Lars Kjelson Takle, Voss Parish, Bergens Diocese Norway

Now that I have the opportunity. I want to write a few words regarding my situation here; and then I want to give you a comprehensive description about America. My wife, children and I are in good health and satisfied, I moved from Illinois to Wisconsin, where most of the Norwegians have settled, and I bought 81 acres at the government price, and this piece of land is better than one laup of property in Norway. My assets include of 15 cattle, large and small, and 6 sheep, since we can provide and harvest from the animals quite easily. Last year I had 11 animals and gathered hay for them in 3 weeks alone, except my wife helped occasionally. You get various descriptions about America partly because of inexperience, partly because of people's destiny here, as in other parts of the world. It is true that they, who travel here, must withstand certain trials first. But

opholdet angaar, er forskjellen mellem Amerika og Norge meget stor. Daglønnen er høi og levnedsmidlerne billige. En arbeider her har 10 til 14 dollar maaneden, en pige 6 dollar maaneden. En tønde poteter er 1 dollar, en tønde hvede 2 dollar, en tønde Indian korn 1 dollar, flesk fra 2 til 4 skilling marken ; smør fra 4 til 12 skilling marken ; en ko fra 8 til 16 dollar; en sau fra 1¹/₂ til 3 dollar; en tønde salt 2 dollar. Her er i næringsveien lettere at opholde sig. Wisconsin er det bedste og sundeste sted for norske folk. Om nogen af mine slegtninger faar i sinde at reise hertil, saa tror jeg det vilde være gavnligest. Især unge folk og de, som har mange børn, vil i fremtiden fin de bedre udsigter her. Vi har 3 norske mil til byen Milwaukee, 1/2 mil til møllen, saa vi har det beleiligt baade for kjøb og salg. Herom bedes, at De vil udtrage et kopi til Lars Nielson Nesheim. Min kone ønsker at hendes søstre skulde komme hertil, saa ombedes dig Lars Takle, at Du vil hilse dem. Hermed slutter jeg min skrivelse med en flittig hilsen til min moder og alle beslægtede og venner. Befordres med Knut Aslagson fra Vinje Prestegjeld i Telemarken, der gjør en snarreise til Norge.

Mons Larson Skutle

BREV FRA KOSHKONONG 1843.

Til velagtede Knut Nielson Nedre Himle, Voss Prestegjeld,

Bergens Stift, Norge!

Da der gives god leilighed med Elling Eielson Sundve til staden New York, maa jeg ikke forbigaa samme: thi jeg har den fortrolighed, at hertil fra Norge eller Sverige kunde vel seilfartens uinskrænelige tilbagereise medføre en liden etterretning angaaende min levemaade og befindende. Jeg lever da vel, er karsk og sund men velbefindende, og det samme ønsker jeg at høre fra Eder. mine kjære og ihukommende forældre, søskende, slegt og venner. Tvende skrivelser har jeg modtaget fra dem mine kjære forældre og søskender, og gjennemlæst dem med største glæde og fornøielse, hvorfor jeg skylder dem min tak. Og det er nu min fjerde skrivelse, jeg sender, siden jeg landede lykkelig .og vel i Boston*). Førrige aar erholdt jeg ogsaa en skrivelse fra hr. skoleholder Claus Sjurson Mosefin, som jeg skylder samme min yderste tak for. Det gjennemlæstes med stor glæde og fornøielse, og ønsker jeg Eder lykke og velgaaende i Eders vigtige indtrædelse. Som jeg efter evne og erfaring (nævnte) i min førrige skrivelse, maa jeg her ogsaa anbetegne til dig, min kjære ven, Claus med kone, at den, som kan nyde hilsen, saa kan han ogsaa opholde sig lettere her end i mit fedreland. Men jeg kan ingen raade til, ei heller ifra (at komme hertil); enhver maa overveie hos dem selv; men om samme

*) 1837.

especially, when it involves the conditions, the difference between America and Norway are mighty big. The daily wage is high and the cost of living is low. A laborer here gets 10 to 14 dollars a month, a girl 6 dollars a month. A barrel of potatoes is 1 dollar, a barrel of wheat 2 dollars, a barrel of Indian corn 1 dollar, meat from 2 to 4 shillings a mark, butter from 4 to 12 shillings a mark, a cow from 8 to 16 dollars, a sheep from 1 1/2 to 3 dollars, a barrel of salt 2 dollars. Here the cost of living makes it easier to support oneself. Wisconsin is the best and healthiest place for Norwegian people. If any of my relatives get it in their mind to come here, then I believe it would be beneficial. Especially young people and those who have many children would find better prospects in the future here. We are 3 Norwegian miles from the city of Milwaukee. 1/2 mile to the mill, so we have it convenient both for shopping and sale. Now I ask you to make an excerpt of this for Lars Nielson Nesheim. My wife would like her sister to come here and is requested by Lars Takle that you greet them. Herewith I conclude my letter with many greetings to my mother and all relatives and friends. Carried by Knut Aslagson from Vinje Parish, who is making a visit to Norway.

Mons Larson Skutle

LETTERS FROM KOSHKONONG-1843.

To esteemed Knut Nielson Nedre Himle, Voss, Parish,

Bergens Diocese, Norway!

Since it is given a good opportunity with Elling Eielson going to New York state I shouldn't miss it: since I believe that from here to Norway or Sweden could sail travel, in its unlimited return trips, carry a little message regarding my life conditions and situation. I am living well, am hale and hearty and in good condition, and the same I wish to hear from you, my dear and unforgettable parents, siblings, relatives and friends. I have received two letters from you my dear parents, brothers and sisters, and I've read them through with great joy and satisfaction, for which I owe you my gratitude. This is now my fourth letter, that I send, since fortunately and healthily landing in Boston.*) Last year I also got a letter from teacher Claus Sjurson Mosefin, to whom I also owe my thanks. I read it with great joy and pleasure, and I wish Thee happiness and good fortune in Thy important venture. As I did according to my ability and experience (mentioned) in my previous letter, I must here, advise to you, my dear friend, Claus and wife, that he who can use the greetings, can also provide for himself easier here than in my fatherland. But I can't give advice, either for or against (coming here); each must consider it themselves, but if it happens that you

*) 1837.

sker, at dem kommer, da nytter det ikke at medføre nogen arbejdsredskaber, men klæder af vadmel var nyttigt for mandspersonerne; men hvis dem ikke lyster dertil, saa forglem ikke at skrive til mig formedelst Eders videnskab og vores bekendtskab. Jeg er begjærende, men aller ærbødigst beder jeg om samme, hvis leilighed gives.

Jeg har for denne gang ikke noget betydeligt at melde om, derfor vil jeg lade Eder vide om en troesbekjendelse, kaldet Mormon, som af altfor mange personer er sat i stedet for den christelige religion; thi de sige at have fundet den ene og den rette hellige skrift, som de kalder Mormonbogen eller gyldne bibel, hvilken var funden i jorden, og en engel aabenbarede samme bog for dem.

Da denne bog har vakt megen opmærksomhed, og af en vis sekt sat istedenfor den hellige skrift, anser jeg det for en pligt, jeg skylder det offentlige, at anføre, hvad jeg ved om dens oprindelse, — At dens paastand om en guddommelig oprindelse er aldeles ugrundet, behøves intet-bevis (for den), der ikke ved det skjændigste bedrageri er forvandt. — At nogen fornuftig person skulde sætte den høiere end noget andet blot menneskeligt opspind, medfører den største forundring. Dog er den vedtagen som guddommelig af nogle, som bo i det oplyste New England, og endog af saadanne, som hengivent har baaret en kristelig karakter. Da jeg nylig har erfaret, at oversten har fundet dens vei ind i en af Massachusetts Miagfader? (mange steder), og har indtaget nogle af dens medlemmer ved sin største fornøielse, saa at endog udelukkelse for kirken er bleven nødvendig, er jeg bestemt ikke at opsætte længere end at gjøre, hvad jeg kan for at drage masken af dette syndige uhyre og lægge denne vederstyggelsesens hule aaben.

I byen New Salem boede en mand ved navn Spaulding, som var med kundskaber og var lidenskabeligt hengiven til historie; og i samme by, som han opholdt sig, var der adskillige høie og forskansninger, som af mange formodes at være forfaldne boliger og forsvarsværker efter en nu uddød slegt. — Hr. Spaulding fandt derfor levende interesse i disse opdagelser fra oldtiden. For at beskæftige sine ledige timer og give sine levende tanker noget at bestille, holdt han paa den ide at give en historisk skildring af denne for længe siden tabte folkeslægt. Dens fjerne oldtid leded ham følgelig til at skrive i den mest ældgamle stil, og da det gamle testamente er den ældste bog i verden, efterlignede han dens stil saa meget som mulig. Hans eneste hensigt til at forfatte denne historiske roman, var først for at more sig selv og sine naboer. Dette var omtrent aaret 1812. Eftersom han havde opskrevet en leks pleiede naboerne at indfnde sig tid efter anden for at høre den. Hans kjendskab med de ældste forfattere og den gamle historie satte ham istand til at anføre mange særegne navne, som folk fornemmelig lagde mærke til og lettelig kunde erindre.

come, you needn't bring any tools, only clothes of homespun are very useful for men, but if you don't decide to, don't forget to write to me sharing your knowledge and our friendship. I want it strongly, but respectfully ask you about the same, if you have the opportunity.

For this time I don't have much important to report, therefore I will tell Thee about a creed called Mormon, which a lot of people have adopted instead of the Christian religion; for they say they have found the one and right holy writ, which they call the Book of Mormon or golden bible because it was found in the soil, and an angel revealed this book for them.

Since this book has created great interest, and for some, it is placed in place of the Holy Scripture, I consider it my duty that I owe the public to command to you what I know about its origin, — that its claim as divine origin is completely without foundation, needing no proof (for it), who doesn't know it is to be anticipated to be a disgraceful fraud, — that any reasonable person would value it more than any other sacrifice of human fabrication, brings the greatest wonder. Yet it is regarded as divine by some, who live in enlightened New England, and even by some who have thus far been of a Christian nature. Since I recently learned that the above had inveigled its way into one of Massachusetts Miagfader? (many places), and had consumed some of its members with its greatest success so that it still was for the church to be necessary, I decided not to make a greater turmoil than to do what I can to unmask this sinful monster and expose this abomination.

In the city of New Salem there lived a man by the name of Spaulding, who was learned and had a passion for history, and in the same town as he lived were various hills and entrenchments which many people believed were deteriorated buildings and defense works from a now died out race. — Mr. Spaulding found a great curiosity in these discoveries from the past. In order to employ his free time and give his active mind something to do, he got the idea of giving an historical perspective to this long lost people. Its distant history subsequently led him to write in an ancient style, and since the Old Testament was the oldest book in the world, he tried to emulate it as much as possible. His objective of writing this historical novel was mainly to entertain himself and his neighbors. This was about the year 1812. After he had written a portion, his neighbors eventually had time to listen to it. His familiarity with the oldest authors and the ancient history put him in position to introduce many especial names which people particularly paid attention to and easily remembered.

Sidney Begdon, en af sektens ledere og ophavsmand, der har spillet en saa betydelig rolle*). Denne historie, som de kalde "Manscript", stod i denne tid i forbindelse med Hr. Spauldings Manscript, men efter nogen tids forløb blev manscriptet tilbagebraget med Hr. Petersons officie. Her havde han god anledning til at gjøre sig bekendt med Hr. Spauldings Manscript, men efter nogen tids forløb blev Manscript tilbagebraget til forfatteren, og Spaulding flyttede straks efter til Anty, Washington county, hvor Hr. Spaulding døde i 1816. Siden faldt Manscriptet i en af hans brødres hænder. Det er nok noget af deres eget tillige; og Mormons religion er, at de tro, naar en lader sig døbe engang, saa er han tidløst fra synden, og siden kan han døbe sig for andre af sine slegtninger, som er bortdøde og have her ført et ugudeligt liv. Og for hver gang de siden lade sig døbe, udløser de en af deres fordømte slegtninger fra Helvede.

Intet videre dennegang end at jeg lever vel med hilsen og sundhed; og dersom det ønskes at vide en eller anden ting, maa de skrive samme tilbage, da vil jeg give underretning derom hvis mulig. Hvis ikke beder jeg Dem have mig undskyldt.

Hermed vær paa det venligste og kjærligste hilset mine kjære forældre, som under sorg og møie have opdraget mig og siden forlod jeg Eder i Eders alderdom; men frygt Gud, som er mægtig til at hjælpe og altid hjælper sine troende børn. Ligeledes hilser jeg til dem mine kjære søskender. Sky hvad De kan undvære, saa vil Gud ogsaa lade sin fred hvile over dem. Jeg hilser de andre af mine slægtninger, venner og bekendte naboer at jeg lever vel og fornøiet og ønsker dem alle lykke og helbred og evig glæde hos Gud "in Heaven". Det ønskes af mig. Adio, lev vel; min kjære fader Knut Nielson Himle. I wish, I was in Norway today.

Anders Knutson Himle.

AMERIKAS OPDAGELSE.

For et aars tid siden blev dei offentliggjort en interessant beretning om en expedition til Amerika 10 aar før Columbus. Som fører for denne expedition omtaltes den historisk bekendte Didrik Pining. Ved at se navnet Pining nævnt i gamle diplomer fra Voss er vor opmærksomhed atter henledet paa denne sag.

I 1293 blev gaarden Byrkjo paa Voss udløst ved Odel af brødrene Odd paa Rogne og Halrod paa Ringheim fra dens midlertidige eier, Einar Pining. Samme Einar kjøbte i 1303 gaarden Tøn. Hans enke, Solveig og søn Haakon søgte senere at trætte igjen Byrkjo, men tabte. "Denne Pining har, saavidt man kan se, været af norsk adel og familien har hørt hjemme paa Vestlandet, rimeligvis paa Voss", skriver

*) Noget antagelig udelagt.

Sidney Begdon, one of the sects leaders and instigators, who has played a meaningful role*). This history, which they called "Manscript", was at that time associated with Mr. Spauldings Manscript, but after the passage of time the manuscript was returned to Mr. Peterson's possession. Here he had a good opportunity to familiarize himself with Mr. Spaulding's Manscript, but again after some time the manuscript was returned to the author, and Spaulding soon moved to Anty, Washington County where he died in 1816. Later, the Manuscript fell into the hands of one of his brothers. That is enough of them and Mormons religion is that they believe that once they have been baptized subsequently they are free from sin and then they can be baptized for other of their relatives, who are dead and have led an ungodly life. And each time they subsequently are baptized, they release one of their condemned relatives from hell.

Nothing further this time except that I live well with good health and wellbeing; and if you want to know one thing or another, you must write back, then I'll give you information if possible. If not, I beg your forgiveness.

Herewith be most friendly and most dearly greet my dear parents who in sorrow and travail raised me and later I left them in their old age, but fear God, who is almighty and helps his believing children. Likewise I greet my dear brothers and sisters. Avoid what you can do without, then God will let His peace rest over you. I greet the rest of my relatives, friends and well-known neighbors and say that I'm healthy, live well and am satisfied and wish them all good fortune, health and eternal joy "in heaven" with God. That is wished from me. Adios, live well, my dear father Knut Nielson Himle. I wish, I was in Norway today.

Anders Knutson Himle

DISCOVERY OF AMERICA

A year ago I ran into an interesting description about an expedition to America 10 years before Columbus was published. Didrik Pining expedition was discussed as the historical figure leading this expedition. To see the name Pining from the old diploms from Voss mentioned here drew our attention to this matter.

The Byrkjo farm at Voss was redeemed by Odel by the brothers Odd on Rogne and Halrod on Ringheim from its interim owner, Einar Pining. That same Einar in 1303 bought the Tøn farm. His widow, Solveig and son Håkon tried to dispute again the Byrkjo farm but lost. "This Pining, as far as one can see, was of Norwegian nobility and his family had its home in West Norway, possibly Voss", writes Amund

*) Something was most likely omitted.

Amund Helland. "Til samme familie hørte ogsaa den Didrik Pining, som spillede en rolle i Christian den 1st's og Kong Hans's regeringstid, og som af historikere fra hin tidsperiode omtales som en ypperlig sjømand og vældig fribytter."

Det er altsaa nu blit oplyst, at denne Didrik Pining var fører for expeditionen til Amerikas kyst, og at denne expedition satte af sted i 1476. Den reiste først til Island og derfra videre. Det er vel ikke oplyst, enten expeditionen kom tilbage samme aar eller næste aar; men det sidste er vel ligesaa sandsynligt. I 1478 var Pining lensherre paa Island, udnævnt af Christian den 1ste.

Det er ogsaa bekjendt, at Christoffer Columbus var paa Island i 1477, ifølge sønnens beretning. Det kan da godt hænde, at han der ligetil mødte Pinings expedition, da denne kom tilbage dertil. At han hørte om denne, kan da ikke betviles. I henhold dertil synes Columbus's bedrift at bli reduceret til noget nær en almindelig reise.

VOSSINGERNE I IOWA.

Førdesgrænden.

Man kaldte strøget, hvor min far og mine onkler boede i Winnesheik co., for Førdes-grænden. Det var et helt settlement for sig selv. Da de par yngste af brødrene, John og Halvor kom til Winnesheik, stod al ting i et komplet vildnis. Det var bjørn, elg og buck deer i mængde. Ulven rasede omkring og holdt uafbrudt koncerter i de maanelyse vinternætter. Huf! det lød stygt. Det hændte, at en flok nysgjerrige buck-dyr nu og da kom og snusede rundt tunet, lugtende salt. Det var ypperlige dage alligevel, naar man tænker paa det.

En vinter, fortalte min farbror, gik det galt med disse vakre hjortedyr. Det var sørgeligt som de blev nedslagtet, sa han. Det var en streng vinter med megen sne. En dag blev der tøveir saa sneen blev vaad. Om natten kom en svær kuldebølge, maaske lige fra Bheringsstrædet, og alt blev til is i et øieblik. Da begyndte udryddelseskrigen! Ulven blev fed den vinter, fortalte min onkel. Sneskaren var som et glat gulv for skrubben, mens de stakkars hjorte-dyr sank igjennem og kom ingen vei. En mand kunde gribe dem i spranget, sa han. Der blev, naturligvis sult for dem ogsaa. Men ikke saa for skrubben, den slogst og fraadsed, fraadsed og slogst uafbrudt. Farbror Halvor, som var den yngste, fortalte mig at den første vinter de kom til Winnesheik, laa han ude om vinteren og splittede "rail". De grov sig ind i en ussel liden dugout eller shack om natten og der laa de foruden noget ildsted eller nogen slags opvarming. Huttetu! Det var haarde karer! men de var unge den tid, og saa ind i fremtiden med mod og lyse forhaabninger, som vi alles kulde gjøre, uden blir det ikke til noget.

John A. Forde.

Helland. "Didrik Pining also belonged to that same family that played a role during Christian 1st's reign, and about whom historians of his era described as an excellent seaman and very much a freebooter".

It was also described that this Didrik Pining led an expedition to the coast of America, and that this expedition departed in 1476. It first went to Iceland and further from there. It isn't explained whether the expedition came back the same year or the next, but the latter is most probable. In 1478, Pining was Viceroy of Iceland, appointed by Christian the 1st.

It is also mentioned that Christopher Columbus was at Iceland in 1477, according to information from his son. It is quite likely that he met Pining's expedition, when they returned. There can be no doubt that he heard about it. In comparison to that Columbus's accomplishment becomes reduced to an ordinary voyage.

VOSSINGS IN IOWA.

The Førde neighborhood.

People called the district where my uncles lived in Winneshiek County, Førde territory. It was an entire settlement by itself. When the two youngest brothers, John and Halvor first arrived at Winneshiek, everything was wilderness. There were bear, moose and buck deer aplenty. Wolves raged around an held uninterrupted concerts during the moonlight nights. Huf! It sounded awful. Occasionally, a herd of curious buck deer came snuffling around the yard, smelling for salt. It was great days nevertheless, when one thinks about it.

One winter, my uncle told, it went terribly wrong for these handsome deer. It was pitiful how they were slaughtered. It was a tough winter, with a lot of snow. One day it thawed so that he snow got wet. During the night there came a big cold front, probably from the Bering Strait, and everything became ice in a moment. Then the war of extermination began! "The wolves got fed that winter!" said my uncle. The snow was like a slippery floor for the wolves, but the poor deer sank through the crust and couldn't get anywhere. A man could catch them where they stood, he said. There was also famine for them. But not for the wolves, who killed and foamed at the mouth, foamed and killed, uninterruptedly. Uncle Halvor, who was the youngest, told me that during the first winter they were at Winneshiek, they lay outside during the winter and split "rail". They dug themselves in a miserable little dugout or shack during the night and lay there without any fire or any other type of heating. Huttetu! They were tough guys! But they were young at the time and looked into the future with courage and bright hopes, and whatever the cold did, it didn't amount to anything.

John A. Forde

I DEN MEXIKANSKE KRIG.

I forrige nummer omtaltes en vossing som var med i den mexikanske krig i 1846 og 47. Nu foreligger her oplysning ogsaa om en anden, som var med. Denne var Erick L. Erickson, søn af Lars Erickson Lødve og hustru Herborg Torkelsdatter f. Vaale. Han var født paa Voss 1824 og udvandrede med forældre og søskender i 1837. Familien bosatte sig i Ottawa, La Salle co., Ill., hvor Erik snart efter fik beskæftigelse som butikdreng i byen og var i denne stilling, da han i 1846 lod sig hverve i krigen. Med de øvrige soldater fra Illinois deltog han, saavidt vides, i slagene ved Buena Vista, Vera Cruz og Cero Gordo. I 1848 kom han hjem igjen, men reiste i 1849 til California, hvor han døde i 1850.

DØDSFALD I AMERIKA.

Nils Anderson (Kvale) Chicago, afgik ved døden den 1ste august sidstleden og stedtes under stor deltagelse til hvile i Graceland gravlund den 3die s. m.

Han var født paa gaarden Kvale Raundalen, Voss den 15. april 1850. Lærte snedkerhaandværket i Norge, kom til Amerika 1872. Var først 2 aar med paa brobygningsarbeide i Chicago, reiste saa til San Francisco, Cal., drev der i 5 aar med snedkerarbeide. Kom tilbage til Chicago i 1879 og var 14 aar i arbeide hos Hale Elevator Co., hvorpaa han begyndte som bygmester for egen regning. Blev i 1883 gift med Eli Andersdatter Kvale, (Guldfjerdings), der med sønnerne William og George overlever ham.

Elling P. Sime og hustru Guri Haldors-dr. f. Prestegaarden, Madison, Wis., afgik begge ved døden med 1 døgn mellemrum — han den 22de og hun den 23de september, — og blev begravede under usædvanlig stor deltagelse den 26de s. m. paa 51 aarsdagen af deres giftemaal. Døden foraarsagedes ved gasforgiftning, som man formodede var kommen fra gasovnen i køkkenet hvis ene gasaabner var noget løs.

Elling Sime var en af veteranerne af det 15de Wis. regiment. Representanter fra byens norske foreninger og mange vossinger var tilstede ved begravelsen. Se forøvrigt no. 4, side 9 af Vossingens 3die aarg.

John Pederson, velkjendt skrædder i Caledonia, Minn., døde forleden ganske uventet. Han var født paa Voss i 1850, kom til Amerika i 1888, boede i La Crosse, Wis., til 1902, da han flyttede til Caledonia og nogle aar senere begyndte egen forretning. Han var to gange gift; men begge hustruer er døde. Han efterlader sig 4 børn.

IN THE MEXICAN WAR

There was talk in the previous number about a vossing who was in the Mexican War in 1846 and 47. Now I present information about another who was along. This was Erick L. Erickson, son of Lars Erickson Lødve and his wife Herborg Torkelsdatter b. Vaale. He was born at Voss in 1824 and emigrated with his parents and siblings in 1837. The family settled in Ottawa, La Salle Co., IL, where Erik soon after found a job as a store clerk in town and it was from this position that he volunteered in the war in 1846. He participated, with the other Illinois soldiers, as far as is known, in the battles at Buena Vista, Vera Cruz and Cero Gordo. In 1848 he came home again, but went to California in 1849, where he died in 1850.

DEATHS IN AMERICA.

Nils Anderson (Kvale) Chicago died this past August 1 recently and was laid to rest with large crowd participation at Graceland cemetery the 3rd of the same month.

He was born on the Kvale farm in Raundalen, Voss April 15, 1850. He learned woodworking in Norway, and came to America in 1872. First he worked in bridge building in Chicago, then he went to San Francisco, CA, and worked as a carpenter there for 5 years. He returned to Chicago in 1879 and for 14 years he worked at the Hale Elevator Co., when he began as a master builder in his own business. In 1883, he married Eli Andersdatter Kvale (Guldfjerdings), who, with her sons William and George survive him.

Elling P. Sime and his wife Guri Haldorsdatter b. Prestegaarden, Madison, WI, both died 1 day apart — he the 22nd and she the 23rd of September, — and were buried with an unusually large crowd in attendance the 26th of the same month. Their deaths were caused by gas poisoning, which is suspected to have come from a gas stove in the kitchen which had a somewhat loose valve.

Elling Sime was one of the veterans of the 15th. Wisconsin Regiment. Representatives from the city's Norwegian organizations and many vossings were present at the burial. See above No. 4, page 9 of Vossingen's 3rd year.

John Pederson, well-known tailor in Caledonia MN, died recently completely unexpectedly. He was born at Voss in 1850 and came to America in 1888, lived at LaCrosse, WI until 1902 when he moved to Caledonia and some years later started his own business. He was married twice but both wives died. He is survived by 4 children.

MINNESOTAS "GRAND OLD MAN."

Senator Knute Nelson blev paa et masse-møde i Auditorium, Minneapolis, gjenstand for megen og varmhjertet hyldest lørdag den 14de oktober. Det var et aabningsmøde for valgkampen, og senatoren var mødets formand. Da det oplystes, at han skulde indtage formandsædet reiste hele forsamlingen sig og jublede og viftede. Straks efter hørtes nede i salen trommesignalet for hilsning, som brugtes i Borgerkrigen, og en afdeling veteraner marsjerede under trommeslag frem for at bringe "Korporal Knute Nelson" sin hyldest. Forsamlingen reiste sig igjen og næsten overdøvede trommehvirvlerne med sterk og langvarig jubel.

Knute Nelson er nu snart 80 aar, men man kunde ikke mærke hans høie alder paa hans tale, som havde meget af den gamle ild og kraft ved sig. En af hans kollegaer fra Wisconsin sagde: "Naar senator Knute Nelson fra Minnesota taler, da lytter senatet, ja hele nationen; thi man ved at der da taler en mand af erfaring og indsigt, med god dømmekraft og med mod til at sige sin mening."

NORD DAKOTAS GUVERNØR.

Guvernør Nestos er gjenvalgt med et stemmeflertal af omkring 30,000. I den forbindelse er det fornøieligt at erindre, hvad der for en tid siden stod at læse i National Magazine om en gut, som begyndte i almueskolens første klasse her i 16 aars alderen og idag er Nord Dakotas høieste embedsmand. Hindringer siger intet for Nestos; saa lød overskriften. Historien om denne mand er et eventyr om ustanselig gaalen-paa, der begyndte ved hans ankomst fra Norge til Philadelphia i 1893, medbringende sin hele eiendom, det bestod i endel skibskavringer, en brækket smørskaal. af hvilken indholdet var rundet ud, samt 85 cent i lommen. Han hverken talte eller forstod engelsk, men kom dog til Nord Dakota og begyndte at arbeide i høingen for 75 cents dagen. Ved høstarbeidet og træskingen fik han dog næsten det dobbelte i dagløn og tjente da snart saameget, at han kunde betale tilbage for amerikabilletten og fik kjøbt sig nogen klæder. Saa gjorde han sig færdig til samme høst at begynde paa skolen. — Ja, saadan lyder beretningen, der endnu en gang viser sandheden af det gamle ordsprog, som siger: Man kan, hvad man vil.

— De, som paa aarsmødet blev udnævnte paa komiteer i de forskjellige stater, maa begynde at tænke paa, hvor næste aarsmøde skal holdes. Man ønsker at have det i juni maaned næste aar, og jo før man tager bestemmelse om stedet des bedre.

MINNESOTAS "GRAND OLD MAN."

Senator Knute Nelson, at a mass meeting at the Auditorium, Minneapolis, was the object of much, warm-hearted acclimation Saturday, October 14. It was the opening meeting for the election campaign and the senator was the chairman of the meeting. When it was stated that he was to chair the meeting, the entire gathering stood and cheered and waved. Soon after a drum signal greeting was heard out in the hall, as was used during the Civil War and a collection of veterans marched forward to the drumbeat in order to bring "Corporal Knute Nelson" their admiration. The crowd again stood and almost drowned out the drumbeats with their strong and long-lasting cheers.

Knute Nelson will soon be 80 years old, but one couldn't detect his advanced age from his voice which had much of the old fire and strength. One of his colleagues from Wisconsin said: "When Senator Knute Nelson from Minnesota speaks, then the senate listens, yes the entire nation, because they then know that a man of experience and insight is speaking, with good judgment and the courage to say his meaning."

NORTH DAKOTA'S GOVERNOR

Governor Nestos was reelected with a plurality of about 30,000. In that connection it is enjoyable to recall what was to be read recently in National Magazine about a boy who began in common school's first grade at age 16 and is today North Dakota's highest government official. Obstacles mean nothing to Nestos, praised the headline. This man's history consists of an adventure of continual advances that began with his arrival from Norway to Philadelphia in 1893, bringing everything he owned which consisted of some ship scrapings, a broken butter dish which wasn't rounded out and 85 cents in his pocket. He neither spoke nor understood English, but he made it to North Dakota and started work in haying at 75 cents a day. In the harvest and threshing he almost doubled his daily wage and soon earned enough that he could repay for his tiackets to America and he bought some clothes. Then he prepared himself to begin school that fall. — Yes, continues the article, that demonstrates the truth of the old adage that says: A man can do, what he wants to.

--- You who were appointed to the committees for the various states, at the annual meeting, should start thinking about where to hold the next annual meeting. They wanted to have it in June next year and one better think before making the decision about the place.

PAA VOSS.*Aottongaviso*

Tone: Gamall folketone.

Pao Voss dar æ eg no fødd aa alen
 aa høyre te nepao Dyrvedalen.
 Ja Dyrvedalen dan ha eg kjær'
 So bondemann ve eg leva her.

Eg æ ei Gollfjorings jenteknøta,
 ha lært te spinna, te sy aa bøta,
 pao dyrveguten eg sikkort trur.
 I Finnesloft ve eg sitja brur.

Eg æ ein borstrending tao dei stramme
 aa Lønahorjæ ho æ min granne.
 Eg bryto jor åa eg ryggje stein
 aa lika meg i min bondeheim.

Eg æ ei jenta so æ so hæppæ
 aa høyra te oppi øvre Ræppæ,
 jer bondearbeid forutan sut.
 Snart flytt' eg heim te min borstrandsgut.

Eg æ ei tjukkebygdsjenta rolæ
 aa held meg helsto i heimabolæ
 I heime hjelpe eg hinne mor
 te stedla baade i bu aa flor.

Eg æ ein kvitlar aa elska skojen,
 men darfv gløyme eg inkje plojen.
 Men tymborskojen han æ no bas,
 han skaffa penga so sand aa gras.

Eg æ ein bordøl aa greio bonde
 og bondeskjikkjen held nokkonlonde.
 Eg bryto joræ og saor 'ne te
 aa fædle bjørkjæ aa kjøvre ve.

Eg æ ei sprettande vikjajenta
 aa lenje slapp eg pao friar venta.
 Men dan so no eg ha valt meg ut
 da æ ein støvande joragut.

Jei er fra Vangen bær hat aa kjole,
 og jei har gaaet paa danseskole.
 Jei danser tango helt brilliant.
 I takt og holdning tip top galant.

At jei er pike fra Vossevangen
 kan dere se utaf bare gangen.
 Nu har jei valt mei en hjærtens kjær.
 Hans rette navn "Sjan Frantzen" ær.

A.. F.**AT VOSS***A Young people's air*

Tone: Old folk melody

I'm born and raised at Voss
 I belong down in Dyrvedalen.
 Yes, I love Dyrvedalen dearly
 There I want to live as a farmer.

I am a gentle girl from Gullfjerding
 I've learned to spin, to sew and mend.
 I want a boy from Dyrvedal
 And to be a bride in Finneloft.

I am from Borstrond and flow from there
 And Lønahorgi is my source.
 I plow the land and clear the stones
 And am joyful in my farm home.

I am a girl and am so happy
 To belong to upper Ræppe
 I do farm work without complaint.
 Soon I'll move home to my Borstrand boy.

I am a girl from Tjukkebygdi
 and am a homebody.
 At home I help my mother
 to care for house and barn.

I am a Kvitlar and I love the woods,
 I don't forget the plow
 but the timber forest is the boss,
 it produces money just as well as hay.

I am a pleasant farmer from Bordalen
 And I follow more or less the farmer's way.
 I break the earth and sew in it
 And fell birches and haul wood.

I am a dandy girl from Vikja
 And haven't waited for suitors
 But I have fallen for
 A dusty boy of the land.

I am from Vangen and wear a hat and frock,
 And I have attended dancing school.
 I dance the tango brilliantly
 In time and hold most elegantly.

That I am a girl from Vossevangen
 you can tell by just my walk.
 Now I have captured my dear one's heart.
 His proper name is "John Frantzen".

A. F.

PAA LINJESKODING FOR JARNVEGEN.

(*Joh. Lavik i Bondebladet.*)

I Myrkdalen og paa Stalheim.

Voss, 23de sept. 1922.

Lineskodingi kunde vel vera ein grand meir verd idag. Ein fekk sjaa meir av Vossestrand!, kva dyrkningsjord der var åa løysa ut, en ein fekk sjaa av dalarne og fjordbotnarne laurdag.

Det er berre nere ved inngongen fraa Draugsvoll, Myrkdalen er ein trong dal. Ovantil vatnet kjem du til ein vid runding i dalen, med sagte hall fraa alle sidor og der laag 5 store gardar tett i tett, og kann verta minst 5 slike til der i same runding. Kornet var kome paa staur og det var so mata og fint at ein lyt segja Vaar-herre hev vore god mot den bygdi. Sameleis stod potetorne. Og finare lende til rydjing skal du leita lenge etter. Sameleis skulde det vera endaa ei 5—6 kilometer innerter, og der var dalen endaa vidare. Heile Myrkdalen ovanntil vatnet kann verta til eit einaste engjahall paa baae sidor av dalen mange kilometer oppigjenom.

Ei blidare, romslegare grend veit eg snaudt aa nemna paa Vestlandet, en desse gardarne der so som Mørkve, Skjervheim. Fliseram, Hyrt og endaa ei par til. Dei laag mesta bø i bø.

Haai var slegi yver vide vollar, kornstaurarne stod gule burt-etter bakkarne i heile den store runding og husi laag lettleg eit stykke upp i lidi, sjaalegt var der og fager laag dalen med grøne vollar og tette skoglidar i dei fyrste haustliter.

Fredfull laag dalen i sloknande sumar, men grøden var so rik, at ein helder kjende seg millom velstandsfolk.

Paa bøjarne under Skjervheimshnsi stogga fylgjet og fylkesmann Friis Petersen greidde ut um den siste lina som ingeniør Bjerke hev stukke. Ho gjev upaaklageleg stigning, berre 20—25 pro mille, og det er likso gode stigningshøve som paa Bergensbana. Samstundes vert der tvo tunnellar, den eine paa 6500, den andre paa vel 3000 meter mot den lange tunnellen paa 12,600 etter det framlag ein hadde fyrr. Og lina kjem ikkje høgare en 400 meter elder derikring. Denne lina rettar tunellen noko meir mot vest, og han kjem ut att øvst i Yvrisdalen. Ho gjeng nord etter dalen eit stykkje og so

LINE SURVEYING FOR THE RAILROAD.

(*Joh. Lavik in the Farmer News*)

In Myrkdalen and at Stalheim.

Voss, September 23, 1922

Line surveying could be worth a lot more today. One could see more of Vossestrand! On Saturdays, we could see what arable land there was available to develop and the valleys and the inner fjords.

Just down from the entrance to Draugsvoll. Myrkdalen is a narrow valley. Above the water flows from a curve in the valley, but drains from all sides and there lay 5 big farms all in a row and there are 5 similar in the same curve. The grain was up with stalks and it was so even and nice one had to say Our Lord has been good to this district. Likewise stood the potatoes. You would have to look a long time to find nicer land to clear. 5-6 kilometers further in, it was the same and there the valley was even wider. The entire Myrkdalen above the lake could be a single meadow on both sides of the valley many kilometers up through.

I hardly know of a gentler, roomier neighborhood in the West Country than these farms such as Mørkve, Skjervheim, Fliseram, Hyrt and a couple more. They lay nearly door to door.

The hay was mown over wide meadows, the grain stalks stood yellow up the hills in the big curving and the houses lay a short distance up the fields, visible and beautifully lay the valley in the green meadows and the small forests were in their first fall colors.

The valley lay peacefully in the extinguishing summer, but the growth was so rich that one felt like he was among wealthy people.

At the curves below Skjervheims buildings the group was plodding and the County Surveyor Friis Peterson plotted out the last line that the engineer Bjerke had marked. He provided an uncritizable incline. Only 20—25 per thousand, and that's just as good as the Bergen Railroad. At the same time, there were two tunnels, the one 6500, the other 3000 meters versus the long tunnel of 12,600 in the proposal earlier. And the line came no higher than about 400 meters. This line puts the tunnels somewhat more westerly, and it comes out again high in the Yvris Valley It. goes north along the valley for

gjeng den mindre tunellen mest rett i aust og ein kjem inn att paa den fyrre lina.

Fagre Myrkdal, farvel. Det ber ned att, og langs med det myrke, djupe Myrkdalsvatnet.

Stalheim.

Ogso kring Uppheimsvatnet og nedetter mot Stalheim er gode dyrkningshøve. I Holbygd kann en visst og vidka ut, endaa der er faa grender paa Vestlandet — rettare sagt i Noreg, som hev finare vitnemaal um arbeidsglade bønder en denne store grendi.

Paa Stalheim greidde kaptein Negaard, sekretær i jarnvegsmemdi fyr Hordafylke, ut um alternativ gjennom Brekkedalen og Jorddalen.

Jarnvegsautoritetarne hev nok sett seg inn i dette fyrr — elder kannhenda er det so at dei ikkje lenger vyrder aa kasta nokon daam av realitet yver ferdi. Generaldirektør Rasmussen hev ikkje vore med paa ferdi fyrr han fraa Bjørgvin kom til Stalheim. Direktør Platon for attende til Oslo idag tidleg, Heggelund, formann i jarnvegsmemdi, kom helder ikkje fyr fylgjet kom til Stalheim. Han var likevel med til Os. Arbeidsministar Mjelde hev derimot vore med heile tidi, og av vaare egne var fylkesmann Friis Petersen og jarnvegsmemdi fra Hordafylket med, sameleis sekretæren i memdi. Vidare var der Bergens jarnvegsmemdi med Campbell Andersen i brodden. Han er varaformann. I. E. Mowinckel er nemleg paa Hamar. Sekretæren i Bergensmemdi, Grimmæs, or sjølv sagt med deim. Elles møter jarnvegsmemderne i kvart herad, fys Modalen møtte Flatekval og Otterstad, fyr Bradvik, Dale og Brørvik, fyr Voss Bjørgum, Finne, Ullestad og fleire, fyr Vossestrand i Skjervheim og Tveito.

* * *

Snjoen ligg drivande kvit yver alle fjell. Lufti er tindrande skir og skarp, det isar som ein kul gjennom deg av denne fagre verd. Stalheimseventyret ligg framfyr meg i ein skirleik og skarpleik, som eg aldri saag maken til.

Kva jarnvegsmemdi hev set av jarnvegslinorne og lendet veit eg ikkje. Men dei fekk sjaa Nærøy fraa Stalheim. Det var verd tretti vikor med ferder og eting. Gløymer dei det, so var dei ikkje ferdi verd.

Aldri saag eg Stalheim som idag. Aldri reiste Jordalsnuten seg or dalen so byrg og hard i sitt gnellande kveite som idag. Aldri laag solskuggen so staalblaa og skarp yver Nærøyfjorden. Dalbotnen og grøne lidarne nedunder det kvite lakan, var eit eventyr av djupaste grønt i dalbotnen og dei fyrste vemodige haustliter i skog-lidi. Skridorne fraa brunerne til elvi laag med si kvite steingrjot som eit trugsmaal i all denne fegring.

Farvel Nærøy! Lat meg taka endaa ei siste syn. Veldug er du, hard er du, miskunlaus, eit megtugt verk av megtuge kræfter

a while and the shorter tunnel goes almost straight east and enters again at the previous line.

Beautiful Myrkdal, farewell. It turns down again along the dark, deep Lake Myrkdal.

Stalheim

There is a fertile area around Lake Oppheim and down towards Stalheim. In Holbygd one can also expand, yet there are few places in the West Country, more correctly Norway that has more testimony of work-glad farmers than this big area.

At Stalheim Captain Norgaard, secretary of the railroad committee for Hordaland, lay out the routes either through Brekkedalen or Jordalen.

The Railroad Authority certainly has looked into this matter before — or maybe it is that they no longer value credit any aspect of reality over the trip. General Director Rasmussen hadn't made the trip before he came to Stalheim from Bergen. Director Platon went back to Oslo early today. Heggelund, chairman of the railroad committee, didn't come until the group got to Stalheim. He was also along to Os. Labor Minister Mjelde, on the other hand, was there the whole time, and of our own, was County Surveyor Friis Peterson and the railroad committee from Hordaland along as well as the secretary of the committee. Further, there was Bergen's Railway Committee with Campbell Anderson in the vanguard. He was vice chairman. I. E. Mowinckel was apparently at Hamar. The secretary of the committee at Bergen, Grimmæs, was, of course, with them. Otherwise the railway committees in each county meet; for Modalen meet Flatekval and Otterstad, for Bradvik, Dale and Brørvik, for Voss, Bjørgum, Finne, Ullestad and others, for Vossestrand, Skjervheim and Tveito.

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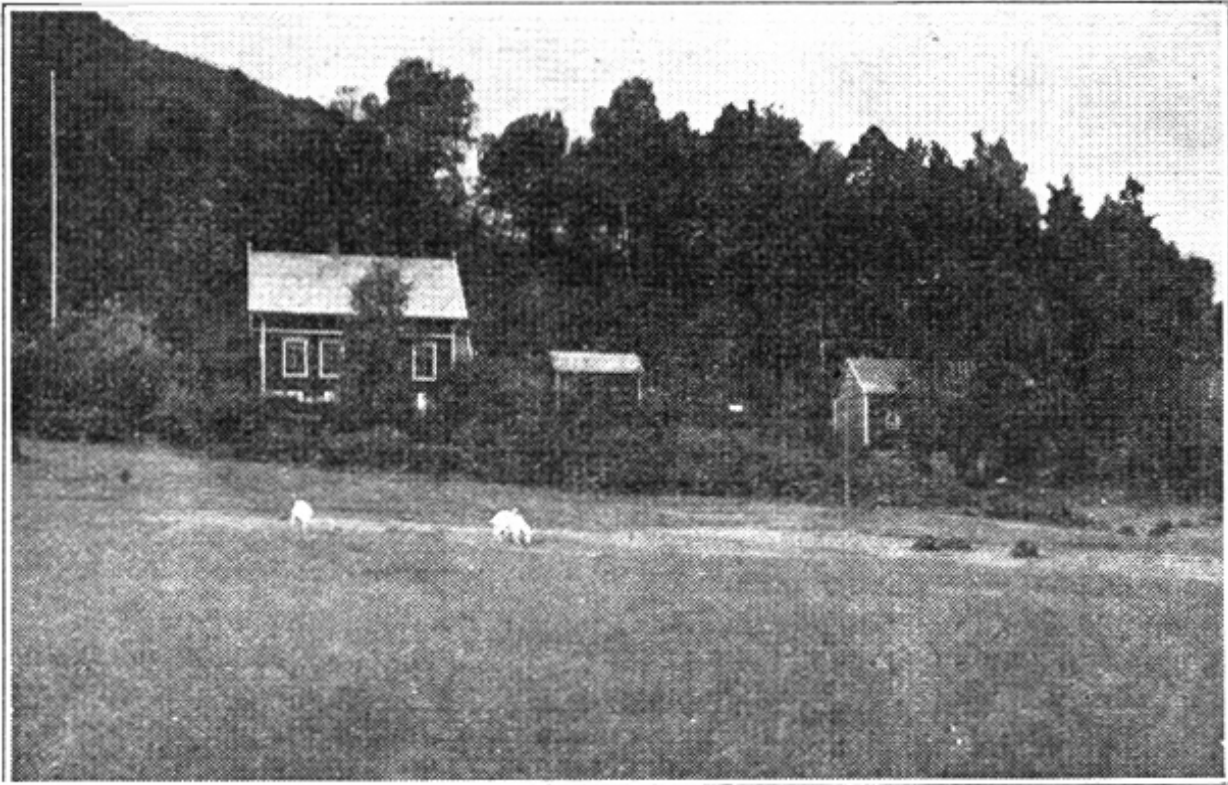
The snow was driving white over all the mountains. The air was scintillatingly sharp and clear, it went like a bullet through you and this beautiful world. The Stalheim adventure lay before me like a clear and sharp scene for which I had never seen any match.

I don't know what the railroad committee had seen of the railroad lines across the country, but they certainly saw Nærøy from Stalheim. It was worth three weeks of travel and dining. If they forget this, then it wasn't worth much.

I've never seen Stalheim like today. Never did Jordalsnut raise itself from the valley so proudly and hard in its gleaming whiteness as today. Never had the shade lay so steel-blue and sharp over the Nærøyfjord. The valley floor and the green meadows below the white layers were a fairytale of deepest green in the valley floor and the first melancholy autumn change in the tree lines. The slides from the springs to the rivers lay with their white rocks a threat to all this happiness.

Farewell Nærøy! Give me one last look. You are powerful, you are hard, unmerciful, a mighty work of mighty powers.

'GAMLEHJEM" PAA VOSS.



Gode vossingar i Amerika!

Jeg har faat i opdrag at skrive til vossar i Amerika om en sag som fortiden er under arbeide paa Voss. Det er om oprettelse af et gamlehem for bygden. Det er stor trang for et slikt hjem. Visstnok har vi "Voss Enkjeheim", som blev oprettet af presten Miltzow, men det er saa altfor faa, som kan faa plads der. Desuten er det bare for kvinder. — Vi mangler et gamlehjem, som kan gi plads for baade kvinder og mænd. Der er saa mange gamle udslitte folk i bygden, som ingen anden utvei har i sin alderdom end fattiggassen. Derfor er det en stor og god opgave at faa oprettet et hjem, hvor saadanne gamle kan faa plads. Men det vil koste mange penge, og vi er udelukkende henvist til frivillige gaver.

Da vi ved, at vore gode frender i Amerika elsker hjembygden og gjerne vil være med at gi bidrag til gode formaal herhjemme, vil jeg herved lægge denne sak frem og rette en opfordring til vossingerne derborte om at være med.

Vossingerne i Amerika har mange gange før vist sin offervilje. Jeg skal bare nævne det store og oppfrende arbeide som er gjort for Voss "Barneheim". Kunde den samme offervilje ogsaa bli vist for den paatænkte "Voss Gamleheim", saa vilde det vække glæde herhjemme.

Jeg skal i korthed redegjøre for sagen og dens stilling.

Good vossings in Amerika!

I have been given the assignment to write to the vossings in Amerika about a matter underway in Voss. It involves building an old folk's home in the district. There is a great need for such a facility. Of course we have the "Voss Widow's Home", which was built by the Reverend Miltzow, but there are very few who can find a place there. Besides, it is only for women. — We lack an old folk's home, which can be a place for both women and men. There are so many old worn-out people in the area that have no recourse in their old age than charity. Therefore it is a good project to build a home where such people can find a place. But it will cost a lot of money, and we are forced to turn to voluntary gifts.

Since we know that our good friends in Amerika love their home area and like to participate in good causes here at home, I propose this project and direct a plea to the vossings over there to join in this.

The vossings in Amerika many times before have shown their charity. I shall only refer to the big and kind work that was done for Voss "Barneheim". If the same voluntary giving would be shown for the planned "Voss Old Folk's Home", it would create much happiness here home.

Briefly, I shall editorialize for the project and its position.

For et aars tid siden sendte en af eierne af bladet Hordaland, fru Marie Alvestad-Haakonsen, en skrivelse til Voss herredsstyre, hvori hun meddelte, at hun vilde gi et jordstykke med uthus til en værdi af ca. kr. 15,000 — til et vordende gamlehjem for Vossebygden. Tidligere havde lensmand J. Lillegraven git kr. 5000 — til samme formaal. Herredsstyret modtog gaven med tak og en nævnd, som skulde arbeide videre med saken, blev valgt.

Nævnden bestaar av følgende, fru Alvestad-Haakonsen (formd.) boghandler A. S. Ullestad (næstformd.), lensmand J. Lillegraven, kasserer, fru Dr. Lærum og fru Brekke. Foruten de nævnte gaver er der til dato indsamlet ca. kr. 5000 — og ved testamente fra nylig afdøde Odd K. Gjerstad kr. 3,500. — Alt i alt skal vi nu saaledes raade over en sum paa opimot kr. 30,000. — Men det trænges mindst ligesaa meget til for at kunne gaa igang med bygningen.

Jeg sender med et billede af eiendommen, som fru Alvestad-Haakonsen har git. Den ligger i Rognslid tæt ved Vossevangen og like ved Rognsfossen.

Den ligger ualmindelig frit og solrigt og er særdeles godt skikket til plads for "gamlehiem".

Rundt omkring i bygderne arbeides der for oprettelse af gamlehjem. Jeg læste nylig om etpar steder, der man hadde modtat store gaver fra Amerika.

Jeg haaber ogsaa, at mange udvandrede vossinger vil være med i denne sag og gi bidrag, smaa eller store. Ligesaa vil jeg haabe, at norske aviser derborte stiller sig velvillig til sagen og foranstalter indsamlinger.

Jeg føler mig forvissat om, at denne opfordring vil finde gjenklang i hundreder af vossingers hjerter, vossinger som gjerne vil være med og ofre lidt til fordel for de gamle i sin hjembygd Voss.

Bidragene kan sendes til lensmand J. Lillegraven eller til Voss Sparebank.

Voss, Norge 23de Oktober 1922.

Anders S. Ullestad.

—"Dette er et af de mest interessante bygdelags-hefter, vi nogensinde har læst", stod der at læse i "Reform" om Vossingen's forrige nummer; og Minneapolis Tidende finder en hel kultursaga deri med meget andet interessant vossesstof. Hvad synes de mange penneføre vossinger, som sparer paa pennen og sparer paa dollaren? Er det ikke paa tide at de vaagner op lidt? Haaber, at medlemmerne vil gaa efter naboer og bekjendte og faa dem med i laget, og at gamle medlemmer ikke forglemmer at sende ind kontingenten, saasart den forfalder.

A year ago one of the owners of the newspaper Hordaland, Mrs Marie Alvestad-Haakonsen, sent a letter to the Voss Township Council that she wanted to give a piece of property with outbuildings of a value of NKR 15,000 — toward a needed old folk's home for the district. Earlier Sheriff J. Lillegraven had given to the same cause. The Town Council accepted the gift with gratitude and elected a committee to carry the work further.

The committee consists of the following: Mrs. Alvestad-Haakonsen (chmn.), bookdealer A. S. Ullestad (vice chmn.), Sheriff J. Lillegraven, treasurer, Mrs. Dr. Lærum and Mrs. Brekke. In addition to the above mentioned gifts about NKR 5000 — and from an estate of the recently deceased Odd K. Gjerstad, NKR 3,500. — All together is given about NKR 30,000. — but at least a similar amount is needed before they can begin with the building.

I am sending a picture of the property, that Mrs. Alvestad-Haakonsen has given. It lays in Rognslid right near Vossevangen and next to the Rognfoss.

It lies uncommonly exposed and sunny and is especially appropriate for "gamleheim".

There has been work going around the area for the creation of an old folk's home. I read recently of a couple of places that had received large gifts from America.

I also hope that many of the emigrated vossings will join in this effort and lend their support, both small and large. Similarly, I hope the Norwegian newspapers over there will show themselves supportive of the cause and prepare collections.

I have the feeling that this donation will find echoes in hundreds of vossing hearts, vossings who will be willing to offer a little as their part for their hometown Voss.

Contributions may be sent to Sheriff J. Lillegraven or to the Voss Savings Bank.

Voss, Norway, October 23, 1922.

Anders S. Ullestad

—"This is one of the most interesting bygdelags newsletters we have ever read", was to be read in "Reform" about Vossingen's recent number, and The Minneapolis Tidende finds an entire culture saga in it with a lot of other interesting material. What do you think, you many literate vossings, who are saving your pens and dollars? Isn't it soon time that you risk a little? I hope that you members will go after your neighbors and friends and get them in the club, and that the old members don't forget to send in your subscription when it falls due.

ET OG ANDET PAA VOSS.

Flere bekjendte forretninger paa Voss har iaar et jubilæums aar. Den ældste af disse er Rokne's jernvarehandel, som nu er 70 aar og næst Styrk Ullestads forretning — den ældste, som nu drives paa Vangen. Den begyndte i 1852 af Knut Knutson Rokne, — søn til "Storesmeden" Knut Larson Rokne, der var 6 aar i smede-lære i byen og var den første, som forarbejdede arbejdsvogne i bygden. Forretningen paa Vangen begyndtes med vognarbejde, hvortil, der efterhvert føiedes jernvarehandel. I 1883 begyndte sønnen Lars Rokne at forarbejde de kjendte fjæreskjarrer; men i 1898 overtoges forretningen af Georg K. Rokne den nuværende eier, der sluttede med vognarbejdet og har drevet bare handelen.

Saa er det Evanger Forbrugsforening, som den 8de juli havde 50 aars jubilæum og feirede dagen med en stor fest. Det var i 1872 foreningen var stiftet. Lensmaud Mugaas, som er den eneste gjenlevende af stifterne vistest stor hyldest. Foreningen arbejdede sig smaat, men jevnt fremover.

Voss Uldvarefabrik er 25 aar. Den begyndte driften i 1897. Anders Vinje fra Vossestranden byggede fabrikken og drev den de første aar men solgte til Vangens Elektricitetværk. I 1911 købte E. P. Hoven fabrikken men solgte den i 1917 til et aktieselskab. Der var begyndt med 1 spindestol og 2 vævestoler, nu er der 3 spindestoler og 9 vævestoler. I 1919 købte det Voss Dampfargereri, som det ogsaa driver.

—Kronstadhuset — et af Vangens ældste huse er nedrevet og Voss Vexel og Landmandsbank bygger paa tomten.

—Indsamling til orgel i Raundalskirken paagaar. Svend Heg og hustru fra Seattle, Wash., har givet kr. 100 dertil. Til Drangsvolds kirkens orgelfond var modtaget kr. 300.00 som var indsamlet af Ole S. Vinje, Madison, Wis.

---Anfin Styrkson Finne var 70 aar den 28de september s. 1. og var gjenstand for adskillig hyldest. Det var han som stod i spidsen for arbejdet med at faa reist mindestøtten paa Vangen i 1905 for veteranerne, som var med i krigen 1807—14, og fik samlet de fleste oplysninger om disse. Han var det ogsaa som sammen med redaktør Ludv. Brue fik dannet Voss Sogelag og var dets formand i 9. aar. Meget af Lagets første skrifter er det som han har skrevet.

—Knut Evanger, som er købmand i Vadsø, Finmarken, blev ihøst indkaldt til storthinget, hvor han tog plads som representant for Finmarksbyerne istedetfor Arnold Holmbo, som blev statsraad. Han reiste fra Evanger, Voss, før han var voksen; har nu en stor forretning i Vadsø og har været svært meget benyttet i offentlige tillidshverv der. Han havde vistnok før været storthingsmand havde han ikke frabedt sig valg, siges der.

Der sidder da nu 3 vossinger i Norges storthing.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER AT VOSS.

Several well known businesses in Voss are celebrating jubilees this year. The oldest of these is Rokne's hardware store, which is now and the next is Ullestad's business — the oldest, now operated at Vangen was begun in 1852 by Knut Knutson Rokne, — son of "Big Smith" Knut Larson Rokne, who had been in blacksmith apprenticeship in town for 6 years and was the first who made work wagons in the area. The business on Vangen started with wagon work afterward gradually yielding to hardware sales. In 1883, the son Lars Rokne began to make the familiar two-wheeled carts, but in 1898 the business was taken over by the present owner Georg K. Rokne, who quit making wagons and has only carried on the sales.

Then it is Evanger Consumer Store, which on July 8 will have its 50 year jubilee and celebrated the day with a big party. The association was started in 1872. Sheriff Mugaas, the only survivor remaining, was shown much acknowledgment. The business started slowly, but increased gradually.

Voss Woolen Mill is 25 years old. It began work in 1897. Anders Vinje from Vossestrand built the factory and ran it the first years but sold it to Voss Electric Company. In 1911 E. P. Hoven bought the factory but sold it in 1917 to a corporation. It began with 1 spinning machine and 2 looms, now there are 3 spinning machines and 9 looms. In 1919 it bought Voss Steam Dyeing Works, which it also operates.

—Kronstad Building — one of the oldest buildings at Vangen was razed and Voss Vexel and Landmandsbank built on the lot.

—Collection for an organ in Raundals Church is going on. Svend Heg and his wife in Seattle, WA, have given NKR100 for it. Drangsvold's organ fund has received NKR 300.00 that was collected by Ole S. Vinje, Madison, WI.

—Anfin Styrkson Finne was 70 years old the 28th of September recently and was the recipient of much honor. It was he who led the work for raising a monument at Vangen for the veterans who were in the war in 1807-14, and collected most of the information about it. He was with editor Ludvig Brue in starting the Voss Historical Society and was its president for 9 years. He wrote a lot of the society's first publications.

—Knut Evanger, who is a merchant in Vadsø, Finnmark, was called into the Storting this fall, where he assumed the position as representative for the towns in Finnmark in place of Arnold Holmbo, who joined the Cabinet. He left Evanger, Voss, before he was grown and now owns a large business in Vadsø and has been greatly utilized in public service there. It is said that he undoubtedly would have been a Stortingsman before had he not refused nomination.

Now there are 3 vossings sitting in Norway's Storting.

GAMLE VOSSEDRAGTER.

Den 2den juli var der fremvist endel gamle vossedragter i ungdomshallen paa Vossevangen. Der var et stort udvalg af svarte-nasduker og andre skaut, samt hvide forklæder, brudetrøier med spænder, udsyede skjorter, perlepynt, kniplinger og forskjellig slags søm. Man fik se de forskjellige stykker, som hørte til brudens ridedragt og den, som brugtes i kirken. Ridedragten bestod af den saakaldte "brurahat", en med perler udsyet hue, "randestakjin" med grønne "kvara" og "bodor", fastsyet liv med spænder paa hver side og blaa trøie under.

I kirken brugtes en blaa "grønkvara" stak, blaa trøie med sølvspænder, perlebringklud, sølvbelte, og krone paa hovedet.

Den ældste brudgomsdragt var bukse, langvest og kufte af mygt skind og rigt prydet med søm i grønne, røde og blaae farver. Senere brugtes "knæbrok", kort vest og kort trøie. Paa hovedet havdes hoie hjemme-lagende hatte med spende paa siden.

Det var Voss folkemuseum som ved L. Kindem havde faaet de forskjellige klædningsstykker udlaante.

DØDE PAA VOSS.

Ingeborg O. Kvale f. Hydning, 53; Knut O. Mørkve (Løne) 23; Knut A. Dolve, 44; Johannes Harberg, 23; Ivar Nilson Lie, 68; Lars B. Lemme, 84; Erik H. Lilleteig, 75; Anna S. Vinje f. Reime, 36; Sigrid Bjørnson, 57; Britha T. Træn, 41; Anna A. Rong, 95; Ingeborg N. Prestegaard f. Lillegraven; Hans O. Gjeitle, 84; Lars N. Rokne, 20; Janna Hetle, f. Lien, 37; Johannes A. Himle, 70; Knut L. Grove, 72; Ole Samsonson Væthe; Margretha Knutsdatter Afdal, 82; Nils K. Lirhus, 77; Cecilia N. Eide, 44; Martha Magnesdatter Steine, 80; Guri Bjørnesdatter Himle, f. Rong, 73; Guro S. Gjerskval, f. Dukstad, 84; Kari Endeve, f. Bjerke, 83; Kari Magnesdatter Liland, 91; Anguna E. Norekval, 63; Anguna E. Hylle, f. Øvsthus, 82.

Vossestranden: Erik .K. Sundve, 70.

RETTELSER.

I no. 1, side 11 for dette aar, siges at Lars Anderson Flage var den første norske sagfører i Chicago. Det skulde være Nils Anderson Flage. Han gik under navnet Larson.

I no. 3 side 3, staar Amund Grove istedet for Graue og Steffa Rokne istedetfor Isak; og paa side 9 s. no. staar Ygte istedetfor Ygre.

OLD VOSS COSTUMES.

On the 2nd of July a number of old Voss costumes were exhibited at the Youth Hall at Vossevangen. There was a wide variety of black kerchiefs and other headgear, together with white aprons, bridal jackets with buckles, embroidered shirts, pearl decoration, lace and various kinds of stitching. Demonstrated were the various articles that were part of a bridal riding costume and those that were used in church. The riding costume consisted of the so-called "bridal crown", one with pearls and embroidered cap, the "border skirt" with green "quarter" and border, embroidered bodice on each side and a blue jacket underneath.

In the church a green-bordered skirt was used, blue jacket with silver buckles, pearl breast cloth, silver belt and a crown on the head.

The oldest bridegroom's suit was pants, long vest and sweater of soft leather, richly decorated with stitching in green, red and blue colors. Later, "kneebreeches" were used, a short vest and a short jacket. On the head they had a home-made hat with buckles on the sides.

It was Voss Folk Museum via L. Kindem that lent the various clothing items.

DEATHS AT VOSS.

Ingeborg O. Kvale neé Hydning, 53; Knut O. Mørkve (Løne) 23; Knut A. Dolve, 44; Johannes Harberg, 23; Ivar Nilson Lie, 68; Lars B. Lemme, 84; Erik H. Lilleteig, 75; Anna S. Vinje neé Reime, 36; Sigrid Bjørnson, 57; Britha T. Træn, 41; Anna A. Rong, 95; Ingeborg N. Prestegaard neé Lillegraven; Hans O. Gjeitle, 84; Lars N. Rokne, 20; Janna Hetle neé Lien, 37; Johannes A. Himle, 70; Knut L. Grove, 72; Ole Samsonson Væthe; Margaretha Knutsdatter Afdal, 82; Nils K. Lirhus, 77; Cecilia N. Eide, 44; Martha Magnesdatter Steine, 80; Guri Bjørnesdatter Himle neé Rong, 73; Guro S. Gjerskval neé Dukstad, 84; Kari Endeve neé Bjerke, 83; Kari Magnesdatter Liland, 91; Anguna E. Norekval, 63; Anguna E. Hylle neé Øvsthus, 82.

Vossestranden: Erik K. Sundve, 70.

CORRECTIONS.

In Num. 1, page 11 for this year, it says Lars Anderson Flage was the first Norwegian lawyer in Chicago. It should have been Nils Anderson Flage. He used the name Larson.

In Num. 3, page 3, it stands Amund Grove instead of Graue and Steffa Rokne instead of Isak, and on page 9, the last number, it reads Ygte instead of Ygre.

DE GODE GAMLE VOSSENAVNE.

I vor tid, da der foretages granskninger paa saa mange omraader, er det naturligt, at man skulde søge at klarlægge betydningen af de gamle navne, som forefindes i de forskjellige bygder i Norge, og som mange af indvandrerne til Amerika bærer. Disse navne forskninger er ikke alene af betydning for at kunne bestemme de forskjellige folkevandringer ved beslegtede navne, men ogsaa for at bestemme de forskjellige kulturtrin og alderen af de forskjellige strøgs bebyggelse. Det maa desuden siges at være af adskillig interesse for enhver at vide betydningen af det navn, man bærer og bruger til dagligdags, og som har været brugt kanske i mere end 2000 aar.

Voss bar en mængde af de aller ældste gaardsnavne, som findes i Norge, ja flere end de fleste bygder; og da disse betegner en eller anden særegen ting eller beskaffenhed ved stedet, er det som en hel liden historie fra denne ældgamle tid, hvorfra der ellers ingen skrevne beretninger findes, og det kan have sin moro naar samtalen dreier sig om hjemstavn og slegt, at fortælle derom.

Ved at betragte disse navne vil man finde at Voss ikke blev bygget paa en dag, men at det dog har faaet en ikke ringe befolkning nogenlunde paa samme tid hvilket synes at fremgaa af de mange navne af ensartet sammensætning, som det har fra den første tid. Senere bebyggelser har andre navneformer med anden betydning.

De ældste navne i Norge er de, som indeholder eller har indeholdt betegnelsen "vin", der betyder græsmark eller havnegang. Dette ord er saa gammelt, at man var sluttet med at bruge det som navn paa nye gaarde før den historiske tid begyndte, eller før aaret 800. Man vil endog henføre det til bronsealderen, der som bekjent regnes for afsluttet omkring aar 400 før Christi fødsel.

Af gaardsnavne med et let "vin" findes i dagligt brug endnu i navnet Vinje og Vinsand paa Voss; men det forefindes desuden, at de fleste navne, som ender paa *e*, har i gammeltid haft endelsen "vin", saaledes Lekve, der oprindelighed Leikvin og er sammensat af ordene Leik (leg) og vin (græsmark), hvilket af os vilde kaldes Legeplads. Ligeledes navnet Møn, der i tidernes løb er sammendraget fra Mo-vin af mo og vin, græsgangen ved moen, til sin nuværende form.

Følgende Gaardsnavne har havt "vin" som endeled: Væte, Rekve, Røte, Sæve, Hæve, Dolve, Gjerme, Honve, Lødve, Pinne, Skjerpe, Grevle, Lønne, Hefte, Fletre, Hegle, Endeve, Melve, Helleve, Kyte, Hylle, Ygre, Skiple, Reime, Vike, Kinne, Rene, Nyre, Sonve, Ronve, Græe, Himle, Olde, Væle, Fære, Dymbe, Gjelle, Glymme og Skutle. Sammendragne er: En, Tøn, Bryn og Træn. I Evanger er der Væle, Elge, Gjeitle og Styve. — I

THE GOOD OLD VOSS NAMES.

During our time, when research is done in many areas, it would be natural to try to elucidate the meanings of the old names in the various districts of Norway, and which many of the immigrants to America carry. These name researches aren't only of meaning to help decide the various nomadic periods by related names, but also to demonstrate the various steps and age of the building of the various neighborhoods. In addition they must be of varying interest to know the meaning of the name one bears and uses daily, and which has been used maybe more than 2000 years.

Voss has many of the oldest farm names that are found in Norway, yes, more than in most districts; and these indicate one or the other special thing or character of the place, it is like a whole little history from ancient times, from where we find no written information and can have enjoyment when the conversation turns to home origin or relationship, or talk of it.

If one regards these names we find that Voss wasn't built in one day but that it has had its humble beginnings at somewhat the same time seems to progress from the many names of simple union, which we have from the earliest times. Later developments have other forms of names with other meanings.

The oldest names in Norway are those which contain or have contained the syllable "vin", which means grassy field or pasture. This word is so old that people quit using it as a name before written history started, or before the year 800. One would have to refer to the Bronze Ages which is estimated to have ended about 400 years before the birth of Christ.

The convenient "vin" is found in everyday use in the names Vinje and Vinsand at Voss but it is additionally found that most names that end with *-e*, have in ancient times had the ending "vin", for example Lekve, which originally was Leikvin or is put together from the words Leik (play) and vin (grassy field), which is also a playground. Similarly, the name Møn, which in the course of time was put together from Mo-vin of Mo and vin, pasture in the meadow, to its present form.

The following farm names have had "vin" as a portion: Væte, Rekve, Røte, Sæve, Hæve, Dolve, Gjerme, Honve, Lødve, Pinne, Skjerpe, Grevle, Lønne, Hefte, Fletre, Hegle, Endeve, Melve, Helleve, Kyte, Hylle, Ygre, Skiple, Reime, Vike, Kinne, Rene, Nyre, Sonve, Ronve, Græe, Himle, Olde, Væle, Fære, Dymbe, Gjelle, Glymme and Skutle. Contractions are: En, Tøn, Bryn and Træn. In Evanger we have Væle, Elge, Gjeitle and Styve. — Vossestranden has Sundve, Finne, Mørkve and

Vossestranden er det Sundve, Finne, Mørkve, Sivle og Hemre, samt Løn, Høn, og Slæn som er sammendragne.

Efter vinnavnene er det navne med "heim" (bosted), som er ældst. De blev heller ikke brugte i nye gaardsnavne efter aaret 800 før de i nutiden anvendes stundom paa udskiftede steder. Paa Voss haves af disse navne Opheim, (op og heim) Litsheim, Vestreheim, Ringheim, Selheim, Seim (Sæheim af sø) samt Kvitheim, som Dukstad, Lirhus og Lofthus er delt fra. Paa Vossestranden er: Skjervheim, Herheim og Stalheim.

I begyndelsen af den historiske tid er det man begyndte at bruge endelsen "stad", helst sammen med et mandsnavn, saaledes Gjerstad, (Geir og stad) Dagestad (Dagi af Dagfin og stad) Eimstad, Eimundstad), Ullestad (Ulvaldestad), Istad (vistnok Iristad), Skulestad, af Skule og stad. Man finder her de historiske personer. Man kan bare tænke sig til at Skule Jarl har boet paa Skulestad, medens har var formynder for den unge Haakon Haakonson, og saa har han havt Dagfin Bonde paa Dagestad til at holde styr paa sig selv. Ja, dette er nu ikke netop historisk fastslaaet, men muligheden taler derfor. I Evanger haves Sigvaldstad eller Sevaldstad forbundet med et mandsnavn, samt Bolstad, Bergstad, Mestad og Brakestad af anden betydning.

Dette er da "noget lidet af meget andet" om de gamle gaardsnavne paa Voss. Der er selvfølgelig meget mere at fortælle om dem, og der er mange flere gode gamle navne at omtale paa Voss; men dette maa være til en anden gang. Hvad vi især har lagt mærke til er brugen af de gamle vin-navne, som ender paa e og er vanskelige at give den rette udtale paa engelsk, hvorfor mange har foretrukket at kalde sig Nelson, Johnson, Knutson, Larson, Pederson og lignende, som bringer deres hele familie til at blive blandet i svermen, uden at man af omtale eller skrift kan kjende den ene fra den anden eller en svenske fra en nordmand. Det spørgsmaal kan da stille sig for os, om det ikke vilde være bedre at antage en ældre form af det gamle navn paa den gaard, hvorpaa indvandrerens var født paa Voss, da denne godt lader sig udtale paa hvilket som helst sprog. Et navn som Kyte, for eksempel, der oprindeligt kaldtes Kytvin, men i hele middelalderen kaldtes Kytin, kan meget godt udtales paa engelsk og vilde lyde meget pent paa dette sprog. Et andet navn er Grevle, der oprindeligt hedte Greflovin eller Greflvin, i forbindelse med elvenavnet, men da dette var noget tungt at udtale, kaldtes det i middelalderen udover for Greflin, et navn, som vilde være misundelsesværdigt paa hvilket som helst sprog.

Alle disse Vin-navne kommer nærmere til den gamle form ved som endelsesbogstav at tilføje en n, og det overlades til videre betragtning, om dette ikke var bedre end at tilføje en Y, som tidt har været gjort her, eller forandre det hele navn til noget, som ingen rod eller mening har.

Sivle and Hemre, as well as Løn, Høn and Slæn which are contractions.

After the "vin" names there are the names with "heim" (dwelling) that are the oldest. They were hardly used as new farm names after the year 800 until the present when they are occasionally used for inherited property. At Voss we have the names Opheim (opp and heim), Litsheim, Vestreheim, Ringheim, Selheim, Seim (Sæheim from sjø), as well as Kvitheim, from which Dukstad, Lirhus and Lofthus are divided. At Vossestrand are: Skjervheim, Herheim and Stalheim

In the beginning of recorded history people started to use the ending "stad", usually together with a man's name, for example Gjerstad (Geir and stad), Dagestad (Dagi from Dagfin and stad), Eimstad (Eimundstad), Ullestad (Ulvaldstad), Istad (evidently Iristad), Skulestad, from Skule and stad. One finds persons of history here. One can't help but imagining Earl Skule living at Skulestad while they were guardians of the young Haakon Haakonson, and then he had Dagfin Bonde at Dagestad maintaining control. Yes, this hasn't been confirmed by history, but the possibilities are there. In Evanger there are the names Sigvaldstad or Sevaldstad combined a man's name as well as Bolstad, Bergstad, Mestad and Brakestad of other meanings.

This then is, "a little bit of a lot else" about the old farm names at Voss. There, of course, is a lot more that can be said about them and there are many more names at Voss, but we will have to leave it for another time. What we have especially noticed in the use of the old vin names which end in -e and which are hard to correctly pronounce in English, which is why many have chosen to call themselves Nelson, Johnson, Knutson, Larson, Peterson etc. which brings their entire family to be mixed in the swarm which one can neither distinguish from the pronunciation or the writing or can recognize one from another or tell a Swede from a Norwegian. Then the question arises, if it wouldn't be better to adopt an older form of a name of an old farm, since for the immigrant who was born at Voss, this would be easily enunciated in any language. A name like Kyte, for example, which originally was Kytvin, but throughout the Middle Ages was called Kytin, can easily be pronounced in English and sounds good in this language. Another name is Grevle, which originally was Greflovin or Greflvin, which in combination with the name of the river, was difficult to pronounce. In the Middle Ages, it was called Greflin, a name which would be enviable in any language.

All these Vin names come closer to the old form using the ending letter n, and after further consideration, it is better than following with a y, which has been done here (in America. Ed.), or changing the entire name to something that has no reason or meaning.

GARDA-REGLA FRAA ØVRE EKSINGADALÆ.

- Gullbraa:* Dar Kvitenosi med skautet staar
ligg Gullbraa-garden med gull i haar.
- Eksæ:* Paa breide aksli og bringa rund
vart garden timbra med øksemunn.
- Trefadl:* Der bu dei trygt paa eit klufta tre
greinerna æ tre dalamid.
- Brakestad:* Garden si hetta er Langesletta
Fuglen sit vil er Ulvagjil.
- Nesheim:* Garden ligg i leidi under Hundalsheidi
Soli stangar dei væne vangar paa breiddi.
- Bergo :* Vassbjørg er romsleg gard — steinen hard
Vatne yngla aur, skogen staur, som i tuva maur.
- Bindingabø:* Bindingabødn ligg langst med strand
skift av ein Løk — med bru til band.
- Fosse:* Garden vaktar Glupen og Bjømen vaktargavl'n
Snjodn paa Graasida styrer Skavl'n.
- Yksendal'.* Paa kultæ var dar bjørnesæte,
daa Yksnadalen vart gard.
No er der berre Bergulvlæte —
um Varaskrida det bar.

Gardaregla fraa Nedre Eksingadalæ veit me
Jakob Vonheim hev kunna og no vilde me gjerne
faa henne prenta og.

"Bondebladet".

Husk paa Vosseturen. Send besked til
komiteens formand, Guvernør Nestos, eller nogen
anden af komiteen for reisen, hvis man tænker paa
at reise. Ingen leilighed vil være bedre til et besøg
i hjembygden.

Alle hefterne af de 2 aarsgange af
"Vossingen", som nu er udkomne kan faaes
tilkjøbs ved at tilskrive sekretæren eller
kassereren. De, som ikke har dem, synes vi, burde
faa fat paa dem. De passer udmærket til gave for
slegtningen paa Voss, og til andre. Støt Skriftet og
laget hvad du kan. Det sømmer sig vist godt for
sambygdingen.

FARM JINGLES FROM UPPER EKSINGADAL

- Gullbraa:* There was Kvitenosi with its headdress
Below lay Gullbraa farm with golden hair.
- Eksæ:* On broad shoulders and round breast
The farm was timbered with ax mouths.
- Trefadl:* There they live securely on a split log
The branches are three small dales.
- Brakestad:* The farm is called Langesletta
The wild bird is wolf-like.
- Nesheim:* The farm lies below Hundal heights
sun tosses the meadows on the bottomland.
- Bergo:* Vassbjørg is a spacious farm — stone hard
Water tinkles, forest is thick like a swarm.
- Bindingabø:* Bindingbø lies along the beach
traded for an onion—with bride as a seal.
- Fossæ:* Farm guards ravine, bear watches the gable
snow on Grayside directs the snow drift.
- Yksendal* The bear seat was on the stump
When Yksnadal became a farm.
Now there are only cries of mountain wolves
Around the Vara slide it carries.

Jakob Vonheim could recite these jingles from
lower (? Ed.) Eksingadal and now we wanted to have
them printed.

"Farmer's News"

Remember the trip to Voss. Send a notice to the
committee chairman, Governor Nestos or any other
member of the committee before the trip if you're
thinking of going. There will be no better
opportunity to visit the hometown.

All the pamphlets from the second year of
"Vossingen" that have been published are available
for sale by writing to the secretary or treasurer.
Those of you who don't have them, ought to get
them. They make excellent gifts for relatives in
Voss, and for others. Support the newsletter and
the club as much as you are able. It well befits our
bygd fellows.

Da æ eit fint aa herlæ drag
 te komma såman i eit lag
 besjæla tao dei samme tankar,
 at, kvar me so i væræ vankar,
 vaor fædraheim me sansa ve,
 aa da me kunna, hjelpa te
 aa samla alt, som a te finnast
 aa verna alt, som a te minnas
 te æra fyr dei, som fostra os
 aa kasta heider yver gamla Voss.

Sprelt yver landet vossa-ætna leva her;
 kan ikkje møtast mæ ting edlu kyrkja pao vossagjæi
 men i adle samfundklassa
 findst dar vessar yver alt.
 aa sin stilling kan dei passa
 om da høgste pladsen gjaldt.

Aa summe kan møtast ein vakkor dag
 te rippa op gande vossa stubba
 aa spinna so nye frao dag te dag
 te minne om adle dei gamle gubba,
 som strævde heilt saort fyr ophalde vaort
 mendo norskheit i barmen dei planta,
 aa vilje aa mot fek ti te slao rot,
 so dan heilstøipto karen ingjinting vanta,

It is a fine and grand day
 to meet together as a club.
 Inspired by those with similar thoughts,
 so that those of us who waver,
 will be reminded of our fatherland.
 And that we could help
 to gather all that can be found,
 to preserve everything that can be remembered,
 to respect them, who fostered us,
 and threw honor over old Voss.

Countrywide, Voss heritage is alive here.
 Can we not meet in court or church on Voss-work?
 Vossings are found everywhere,
 In all levels of society,
 And they can guard their position,
 that counts as the highest place.

And some will meet on a beautiful day,
 to recite and tell old vossing tales,
 and spin some new ones from day to day
 as mementos to all the old men
 who strove until the end.
 They planted Norwegianism in our bosoms
 and with will and courage it took root
 so the whole-cast fellow had nothing lacking.

